



# The Poodle Papers

Official Publication of "The Poodle Club of America"  
Spring 2006



## **2004-2006 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES**

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## **President's Message**

Spring arrived with a BANG!!! Strange weather all over. It will not be long and we will all be together in Salisbury again. So many events are being presented at the National this year. In this newsletter there are updates and information for all the events this year. The theme "Around The World In Eighty Days" makes me wonder what the conformation rings will look like this year. I've been told they will be spectacular. Glenna Carlson and her committees do fabulous work and they are all very appreciated. Glenna is a great show chairman. She keeps things moving right along and is on top of every detail.

It has been a very busy few months. Our booth at the AKC Invitational show was a great success. Many thank's to Mary Ellen Fishler, Mary Ward and the Tampa Poodle Club for putting together such a great meet the breed booth. Part of the booth will be on display at the National. The buttons and pamphlets they had there will be available at the National. These both are really a great way of getting the message out about mixed breeds.

We have approved a Regional for Long Beach, CA September 2007. More information about this exciting event is in this newsletter.

Mike Wahlig will have an update on the Foundation including information on some of the grants that have been made for research.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make PCA the great club that it is. We are fortunate to have so many talented people dedicated to the breed. A Special thank you to Leslie Newing, she does an outstanding job of getting our newsletter out. Each issue is better than the last.

Remember to enjoy your Poodles. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in June at the National.

Doris Cozart

# Coming Specialties

## P.C.A. AFFILIATE CLUB SHOWS

2006

\* NOTE THIS LISTING COMES FROM TOM CARNEAL

APRIL 21-2006

WASHINGTON POODLE CLUB  
COW PALACE MD. STATE FAIRGROUNDS  
TIMENIUM,MD  
MOSS BOW-FOLEY SUPER

GREENSPRING POODLE CLUB  
APRIL 24,2006

MAY 5-2006  
WILLIAM PENN POODLE CLUB  
PA NAT GUARD ARMORY  
NORRISTOWN,PA  
JIM RAU DOG SHOWS

MAY 12-2006  
THE ENCHANTED POODLE CLUB  
EXPO NEW MEXICOO MANUEL LUJAN COMPLEX  
SAN PEDRO,N M  
ONOFRIO DOG SHOWS

MAY 13-2006  
LOS ANGELES POODLE OBEDIENCE CLUB  
GABRIELENO EQUESTRIAN PARK  
LAKEVIEW,CA  
DAPHE BELL-

MAY 13-2006  
HUB POODLE CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY  
OAKS/BLENHEIM, 30573 LA PATA AVE  
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO,CA  
PEGGY BUTLER-SUPER

MAY 19-2006  
MID MICHIGAN POODLE CLUB  
PERANI ARENA-FLINT MI  
LINDSAY STUTT-SUPER

POODLE CLUB OF HAWAII  
MAY 21,2006:  
JUDGE TOM CARNEAL  
OBEDIENCE JUDGE : GRANT ONAGA

MAY 26 AND 27-2006  
GREATER CINCINNATI POODLE CLUB  
BUTLER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
HAMILTON,OHIO

MAY 27-2006  
PANORAMA POODLE CLUB

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SPOKANE FAIR GROUNDS  
SPOKANE ,WA  
ONOFRIO DOG SHOWS

JUNE 2-2006  
POODLE CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS  
CRAKERBARREL FAIRGROUNDS  
WRENTHAM,MA  
NO SUPER LISTED

JUNE -2006  
WEEK OF PCA EVENTS-  
SEE LISTING IN OTHER PARTS OF THIS NEWS  
LETTER

JUNE 28-2006  
POODLE CLUB OF OKLAHOMA CITY  
COX CONVENTION CENTER,OKLAHOMA CITY,OK  
ONOFRIO DOG SHOWS

JULY 6-2006  
POODLE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CA  
VENTURA COUNTYT FAIRGROUNDS  
VENTURA,CA  
JACK BRADSHAW DOG SHOWS

JULY 7-2006  
TAMPA BAY POODLE CLUB  
SARASOTA-BRANDENTON CONVENTION CENTER  
SARASOTA FL

JULY 13 &14-2006  
COLUMBIA POODLE CLUB  
WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIRCOMPLEX  
HIULLSBORO,OR  
BARAY EVENT SERVICES

JULY 20-2006  
BLUEBONNET POODLE CLUB  
RELIANT PARK-HOUSTON TX  
ONOFRIO DOG SHOWS

JULY 28-2006  
POODLE CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO  
HENRY GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER-  
SAN ANTONIO DOG SHOWS  
ONOFRIO DOG SHOWS

GREATER PITTSBURGH POODLE CLUB  
AUGUST 3,2006

HEART OF AMERICA POODLE CLUB  
AUGUST 24,2006  
AUGUST 25,2006

MID MICHIGAN POODLE CLUB  
SEPT 29,2006

Cell 727-251-2214  
rwss218@redwingretail.com

# AFFILIATE NEWS!

\* NOTE THIS LISTING COMES FROM TOM CARNEAL  
The Twin Cities Poodle Club Board of Officers remains  
the same for 2006/2007:

**PRESIDENT:**

Kay Reilly, kmrencore@hotmail.com

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**TREASURER:** Sue Blomquist,  
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**SECRETARY:** Holly Corbett  
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Barb Beneke, Judy Menzos, Lori Logli, Linda Hoof, Mary  
Heitz

NEW Secretary as of December 2005:  
Corresponding/Recording

Secretary - Olga Zamkovaya  
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Cell 727-432-2124  
olga@tampabay.rr.com

Karen L. Toth, President  
Tampa Bay Poodle Club, Inc.

Thank You,  
Sincerely,  
Holly Corbett, Sec'y,  
Twin Cities Poodle Club, Inc.

**Tampa Bay Poodle Club Officers as of May 2005:**

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lindatilka@tampabay.rr.com

Board Member - J. Mitchell Ainsworthe  
Board Member - Cynthia Ainsworthe  
7590 MLK, Jr. Street, N.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
Home 727-527-5427

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**POODLE CLUB OF HAWAII**  
**MAY 22, 2006:**

**DINNER & BREEDERS**  
**SEMINAR: SPEAKER TOM**  
**CARNEAL**  
**MAY 25TH.**

**JUDGES SEMINAR**  
**FMI BRADLEY ODAGIRI**  
**808-373-3838**  
**BRADODAGIRI@AOL.COM**



***Sad news***  
***Rose Koehl***  
***of***  
***Koehl Toy Poodles passed***  
***away March 22,***  
***in Corpus Cristi , Texas***

## Personal ID tags with PCA Lanyards

You can pre-order Laminated ID tags with you name and kennel Name printed with the Poodle Club of America Log .

It will come with a Blue and Gold Poodle Club of America Lanyard.

The cost to Pre-Order is \$5.00. There will be a limited number available at the PCA National Specialty for \$7.00 while supplies last.

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Kennel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable to Poodle Club of America

Mail Pre-Order to PCA Lanyard, c/o Helen Tomb-Taylor, 2434

Ripplewood DR.,

Conroe, Tx 77384

*Interested in hosting  
a  
Regional ?*

Contacted Tom Carneal for all the details.

E-mail: [tomdave@asde.net](mailto:tomdave@asde.net)

*Bring the Poodle World  
close to your home, host  
a Regional.*

## *New Poodle Judges*

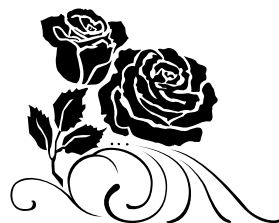
*Phyllis Lambert-Ballston Spa, NY*

*Malcom Moore-Montgomery, AL*

*Monica Canestrini- Wheat Ridge, CO*

*Dorothy Edge- Biloxi, MS*

*Dr. Gary Sparschu-Port Huron, MI*



## ***Spotlite on a P.C.A. Member***

*This Edition of the Poodle Papers shines it's spotlight on Karen Lefrak*

Karen was born in New York, and spent her childhood growing up in New York, where she still lives today and has raised her family.

As a child Karen enjoyed Playing the Piano, She also enjoyed Singing and dancing in School Productions.

Karen has been married for 36 years. She is very active with her volunteer work for the New York Philharmonic, the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Research Center, Central Park Conservancy and the Delta Society. Karen also spends her time writing Children's Books.

Karen had a miniature Poodle as a child and now as an adult decided on a standard. She bought her first "pet" standard Poodle in 1986 from Wendell Sammet. Little did she know then where this would lead her in her years ahead with her friendship with Wendell.

Karen began showing in Breed conformation in 1996, with a standard she got from Wendell, under the "On Fifth" prefix. Karen has been actively showing standard Poodles since then. Wendell has been her mentor as well as co breeder and a very dear friend since then.

When not at dog shows Karen is busy with her children's books and volunteer work she is involved in. She does take time to enjoy classical music.

Karen's Kennel name is "On Fifth"

*The Poodle Club of America thanks then Columbus Poodle Club for the \$50.00 donation to the general fund. Very generous of this club-the board will discuss its use at then June Board meeting.*

*Tom Carneal*

## ***PCA Seminar 2006***

*From Michael Wahlig*

Our 2006 Poodle Club of America Foundation Seminar will be an update and overview of the common medical problems of the Poodle. Information on diseases that are identified as those that most regularly affect the Poodle will be presented in a concise and understandable manner. Dr. Thomas K. Graves, an assistant professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Illinois will be the speaker.

Dr. Graves is a frequent lecturer at universities and continuing education meetings throughout the United States and Europe. More importantly, Dr. Graves is a breeder/exhibitor and AKC judge of Pekingese dogs. He understands the breeders perspective on disease and is able to discuss issues that are of most importance to breeders.

Dr. Graves is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, board-certified in small animal internal medicine. He has a reputation for presenting clear and concise information on clinical signs, diagnosis, treatment and inheritance of diseases affecting dogs. He will address diseases that affect each of the 3 Poodle varieties.

Again this year the seminar will be held at the show site. Registration will begin at 7:00 PM on Monday June 12 and the program will begin promptly at 7:30 PM. There will be time for questions after the presentation.

### ***PCA Website***

Information is updated on a quarterly basis. The Quarterly updates coincide with the publication of the newsletter.

*Leslie & Lisa*  
PCA Website

## **JUDGING PANEL ANNOUNCED FOR SIXTH ANNUAL AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

— Robert S. Forsyth to Judge Best-in-Show;  
Michele L. Billings, Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show —

NEW YORK, NY (January 25, 2006) – The American Kennel Club announced today the panel of judges selected for the sixth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, to be held in Long Beach, CA on Saturday and Sunday December 2 & 3, 2006. The event showcases the nation's top AKC-registered and international dogs and features a special Bred-by Exhibitor competition.

Heading the panel as Best in Show judge for the Sixth AKC/Eukanuba National Championship is Robert S. Forsyth of Pinehurst, North Carolina.

Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show will be judged by Michele L. Billings of Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Mr. Forsyth was born into a dog-show family, and has been in the sport since 1933. He is a recipient of the Kennel Review handlers award and is a two-time winner of the Gaines Handler of the Year Award. He has bred Pointers for 30 years, producing approximately 25 champions. As a judge, Mr. Forsyth has worked at every important venue in the United States and has also judged in Australia, Japan, Finland, Sweden, Canada, Mexico, and several South American countries. Mr. Forsyth judged Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show at the fifth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship held in Tampa, FL in January of 2006.

Judges for each of the seven variety groups are:

SPORTING – Desmond Murphy  
HOUND – James Reynolds  
WORKING – Barbara Alderman  
TERRIER – Richard Bauer  
TOY – Sari Tietjen  
NON-SPORTING – Dr. Anthony DiNardo  
HERDING – Dr. Carmen Battaglia  
BEST JUNIOR HANDLER – Theresa Hundt

Judges for the seven Bred-By Exhibitor variety groups are:

SPORTING – Eric Bergishagen  
HOUND – Gloria Reese  
WORKING – Norman Kenney  
TERRIER – Cindy Vogels  
TOY – David Ojalvo (Argentina)  
NON-SPORTING – Dawn Vick Hansen  
HERDING – Francine Schwartz  
Enrique Filippini (Argentina)- Poodles (Toy)

Enrique Filippini (Argentina)-Poodles (Miniature & Standard)  
QUALIFYING DATES:  
AKC/Eukanuba National Championship: October 12, 2005  
– October 12, 2006

### **OBEDIENCE AND AGILITY**

The AKC National Obedience Invitational and AKC National Agility Invitational will be held in conjunction with the Sixth AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. All three competitions will take place simultaneously on Saturday and Sunday, December 2 & 3, 2006, in Long Beach, Calif.

### **OBEDIENCE JUDGES:**

David Haddock  
Betsy Horn Humer  
Wayne Koutsky  
Joseph (Bud) Skarbek  
Theresa Temple  
Ronald Roberts

### **AGILITY JUDGES:**

Marquand Cheek  
Kim Reeher  
Dan Dege  
Wilfried Claes, Belgium

For more information about the Sixth Annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, please visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

The American Kennel Club (AKC), founded in 1884, maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world. Its rules and regulations govern more than 18,000 canine competitions each year.

The Iams Company, founded in 1946, is committed to enhancing the well-being of dogs and cats by providing world-class quality foods and pet care products and services.

Animal Planet, available in over 86 million homes nationwide, is the only television network dedicated exclusively to the connection between humans and animals.

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## **BRED-BY EXHIBITOR DOGS GRANTED TWO-YEAR ELIGIBILITY AT AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

— Owner/Breeder/Handlers Can Showcase Top Dogs Once or Twice —

NEW YORK, NY (February 1, 2006) – The American Kennel Club announced today dogs qualifying for the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship by completing their AKC Championship from the Bred-By-Exhibitor class will now have a two-year eligibility period in which to compete.

This new criteria will apply beginning with dogs that qualified at the recently held fifth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on Jan. 14-15, 2006 in Tampa, FL. Dogs that were eligible to show in January 2006 will again be eligible to compete at the sixth annual event on Dec. 2-3, 2006 in Long Beach, CA. Dogs who qualify for the sixth annual event in Long Beach by earning their AKC Championship from the Bred-By class during the qualifying period of Oct. 12, 2005 – Oct. 10, 2006 will receive invitations to enter both the sixth annual and the seventh annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championships.

“Going forward we have expanded the competition eligibility period to two years in order to let the breeder determine the optimal times to showcase their dogs,” said AKC Chairman Ronald Menaker. “Many times a promising, young dog may finish his Championship before he fully matures. The new eligibility requirement allows breeders to show a qualified dog at either one or two shows.”

“Each year we strive to improve the show and this new Bred-By Exhibitor eligibility is a direct result of exhibitor feedback,” added Menaker. “We realize the amount of time and effort breeders make when they commit to finishing their dogs from this class. The Bred-By Exhibitor competition is an important component of our show and we want to reward our breeders’ efforts with this extended competition opportunity.”

Currently, to receive an invitation to the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, dogs must either be ranked in the top 25 of their breed, have won an AKC all-breed “Best in Show,” National Specialty, or earned all championship points from the Bred-By Exhibitor class culminating during the qualifying period. In addition, top-ranked dogs in each AKC-registered breed are invited from those countries around the world with registries that issue pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

For more information about the sixth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, please visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

# # #

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The Iams Company, founded in 1946, is committed to enhancing the well-being of dogs and cats by providing world-class quality foods and pet care products and services.

Animal Planet, available in over 86 million homes nationwide, is the only television network dedicated exclusively to the connection between humans and animals.

## ***Website Info..***

***Lisa and I would like to welcome Mia DiBenedetto to the website and want to thank her for her help. Mia will be helping us keep up to date with the fast changing Breeders listings and affiliate club listings, as well as other parts of the web. Many of you will see various articles by Mia in the newsletter. We are very pleased to have Mia's help with the website.***

## Hunting poodle turns snickers into admiration

Mia DiBenedetto and Jack Combs, longtime dog breeders and trainers, ignore the jokes and concentrate on spreading the word that the breed was originated to work in the field.

01:00 AM EST on Saturday, January 7, 2006

By TOM MEADE  
Journal Sports Writer

It's not easy being a hunting poodle.

There you are, all snow-white and curly coated with that big ol' pompadour on your noggin' at an American Kennel Club hunting test among a bunch of black and chocolate Labs. Unaware of your heritage, they call you a "French poodle" and think you don't have a nose or the ability to retrieve.

Go to a poodle club among all those fancy continental cuts, and they look at your retriever cut as if to say "That style is SO yesterday."

"We are definitely the brunt of all the jokes, but we don't care," says Mia DiBenedetto of North Kingstown who, with Jack Combs, owns Lonetree's Go Bang, a two-year-old standard poodle bred to be a working retriever.

Bang's grandfather, Bibelot Silver Power Play, was the first poodle to be awarded an AKC Master Hunter title. Bang's sire, Nambe's Lone Tree, was the second poodle to become a Master Hunter. "With lots of training and some luck, our goal is to have Bang become a third-generation Master Hunter," DiBenedetto said after shooting pheasant and partridge over her poodle last week.

They were hunting at Addieville East Farm in Mapleville, one of the premier shooting preserves in the U.S., where some of the country's top bird dogs are bred and trained. Geoff Gaebe, who runs the family-owned preserve, was hunting with

DiBenedetto as Combs handled Bang. They were shooting on an abandoned farm, the place where the poodle flushed his first pheasant at four months old, with no training.

Bang hunted merrily, floating through the tall switch grass, with what Gaebe called a "long, graceful gait." Making game, the poodle became animated, his tail flagging furiously, giving the guns plenty of time to prepare for a bird to flush.



The poodle breed originated in Germany where its name, pudel, means "splash," said Combs. "Around World War I, the French popularized it as a town dog, a lady's dog, by giving it poofy haircuts," he said. "American soldiers brought them here as ladies' dogs, and they became known as French poodles."

In Europe, standard poodles are shown as gun dogs. In the United States, AKC shows have them in the "non-sporting" class, along with miniature poodles. The AKC allows the standard poodles to enter hunt tests for retrievers, but the kennel club prohibits their entry in field trials.

DiBenedetto and Combs, longtime breeders and trainers of Jack Russell terriers, saw their first hunting poodle at Game Fair, a celebration of country

cont. on page 9

cont. from page 8  
sport in England. They decided that their two remaining terriers, now 18 and 20 years old, would be their last. It took them two years to find hunting poodles in the United States, and when they got their pup, they named him Go Bang, after a famous 19th Century Jack Russell terrier.

In two years, Bang earned his senior hunter title, the step beneath master hunter. "The senior dog is judged on marked retrieves, must be able to deal with blind retrieves, honoring another dog's retrieve, and be steady," DiBenedetto said.

"At the tests, people have been skeptical," Combs said. "Some have even snickered. Until they see him run."

In the field, Bang doesn't ever potter, a term meaning he doesn't aimlessly poke around. His stride is more like a deer than one of the German breeds typically associated with retrieving. On hot scent, he spins in mid-stride, head high like a pointer. And he tracks the ground-scent of a running pheasant like a hound. On the flush, Combs whistles Bang to "hup" like a springer so the dog can mark the bird's fall if one of the hunters hits it. In a hunt test, a poodle sits erect with its head higher than Labradors, Combs said, so it marks downed ducks

more efficiently.

Trained by Buck Shope of Orange, Mass., Bang eagerly retrieves to hand.

For generations, Eileen Jaskowski of Loveland, Colo., Bang's breeder, has preserved the traits for which the poodle was developed. Combs and DiBenedetto say they want to continue the tradition. They're searching for potential mates for Bang, females also bred for hunting.

Last year, Combs and DiBenedetto used live birds to demonstrate Bang's ability to members of a poodle club whose dogs have been bred for the dog-show bench. "The poodle people have surprised us," Combs said. "They've been very supportive of our training for what the dog was originally bred for."

Some hunters still snicker when Bang emerges from his crate to hunt, Combs said, but they often applaud when the dog shows his ability and heart.

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Online at: [http://www.projo.com/sports/tommeade/projo\\_20060107\\_07poodle.221fc53a.html](http://www.projo.com/sports/tommeade/projo_20060107_07poodle.221fc53a.html)

## PCA Foundation

Start the Spring off with a donation to the PCA Foundation. You can contribute to this worthy cause by simply filling out the form below. The Foundation acknowledges all contributions.

I wish to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Poodle Club of America Foundation, Inc., in the name of \_\_\_\_\_. This contribution is made in memory/ honor of \_\_\_\_\_

I wish this contribution to be used for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please specify a specific area, i.e. PRA, Hips, SA, vWD, or to the General Fund)

**Mail your check to : (note Donations are Tax Deductible)**  
The Poodle Club of America Foundation, inc.  
2945 James town Rd., Long Lake, Mn. 55356





*Eukanuba 2006  
Tampa, FL*



*Photo's by Mary Ward*



*Eukanuba 2006  
Tampa, FL*



*“ Just say  
no  
to Designer dogs”*

*Poodle Club of America  
Booth, MaryEllen Fishler  
Chairperson*

*Photo's by Mary Ward*

# Meet the Breeds Booth

The Poodle Club of America should be proud of their AKC “Meet the Breeds” public education booth at the American Kennel Club Eukanuba National Championship Show. There were 140 booths, wall to wall, at the exhibit. The PCA booth took second place to the grand winner, presented by the Shar Pei Club. Personally speaking (and I am a bit prejudiced), I believe the PCA booth was the BEST! Remember, education was the key word, and education was what our booth provided.

The theme of the booth was, “The Poodle- not just another pretty face-but THE Designer Dog”. The point was that everyone seems to want to mix Poodles with other breeds these days-but since the Poodle does everything well - why bother?

The booth worked in a clockwise circle displaying the three varieties (in life size wooden sculptures), trims, his-

tory, and the Poodle’s many abilities and capabilities. There were large photographic displays (agility, conformation, hunting, obedience, therapy, etc.), DVD’s demonstrating poodles in action, and a table displaying newly designed pamphlets and brochures, reprinted articles of anti designer dogs information. “Just say no to Designer dogs” buttons, and National and local club information. It was quite exciting to see how the buttons were received. We distributed 300 buttons before we ran out. (We could have used at least twice that many). Everyone was wearing them- people working other breed booths, AKC Delegates, and even the personnel working at the AKC information booth.



There are many people to thank. First, Mary Ward of Marandon Poodles, who designed the booth and was tireless in her devotion to and execution of this project. Second, Gina Wiesner and her Tampa Bay Poodle Club. Gina went above and beyond by not only helping to organize her club, but also housed and fed us while working as a handler on

the Florida Circuit. Last, but not least, was Karen Toth, President of Tampa Bay Poodle Club, who not only helped Mary and I man the Booth for two days, but also labored during the set up. Representing the Tampa Bay Poodle Club in manning the booth were Rose Macri, Olga and Viad Zamkovoy, Marilyn Carlisle, Len Gedde, Mitch and Cynthia Ainsworth, Linda Sciacca, and Jennifer Mandas. These knowledgeable representatives and the adult dogs they brought helped field the many questions the dog fanciers (who came in droves) wanted answers.

The booth will be displayed at PCA in June. There will be reproductions of all the materials we distributed and hopefully, every affiliate club will take them back to their memberships to be used in this battle in which our breed is so involved.

Remember!!! Just say no to designer dogs!

Mary Ellen Fishler



# Only get a Poodle if you can:

- Give your Poodle lots of time and attention. Poodles are very people oriented and want to be an intimate part of your life.
- Commit to a regular grooming schedule. Your Poodle doesn't have to be fancy, just bathed, brushed, and trimmed regularly.
- Complete a Basic Level Obedience course at minimum. The Poodle is very intelligent and wants to be trained.
- Spay/Neuter your pet quality Poodle. Breeding is best left to those who study the Breed and are devoted to maintaining the integrity of the Breed.
- Buy from a reputable Breeder. Go to [www.poodleclubofamerica.org](http://www.poodleclubofamerica.org) to locate a Breeder near you. Become an educated consumer and learn what questions you should ask your Breeder to help insure you are getting a quality dog.



## FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

New York, NY – Every sport has a Code of Sportsmanship. Some are unwritten, informal guidelines that people learn along the way in their journey to learning a new sport. Others are more formal and rigorous, written out for all to see, appreciate and embrace.

The Board of Directors, as a result of the Chairman’s Committee on Conflict of Interest, approved this month the first-ever written Code of Sportsmanship for our sport of purebred dogs. I have included the new code in its entirety:

### AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- \* Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- \* Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- \* Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- \* The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- \* The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- \* The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- \* The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- \* The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- \* Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the

merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.

- \* Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- \* Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- \* Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of his breeding stock.
- \* Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- \* Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- \* Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

I hope everyone in the fancy will take time to read and practice the new code and appreciate the value a Code of Sportsmanship adds to the experience of being a member of “the fancy.” Enjoy!

Sincerely,  
Ron Menaker  
Chairman

###

The American Kennel Club®, founded in 1884, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of purebred dogs. The AKC maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, oversees the sport of purebred dogs in the United States, and along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs, educates the general public about responsible dog ownership. More than 18,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred dogs are held under AKC rules each year including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, lure coursing, coonhound events, hunt tests, field and earthdog trials. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

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***PCA is just around  
the corner? Are you  
ready?***

# POODLES CONSIDERED AT INCREASED RISK FOR TWO TYPES OF CANCER

Two types of cancer — melanoma of the mouth, also known as oral melanoma, and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) of the toe, commonly referred to as digital SCC — disproportionately affect Poodles more than many other breeds of dogs. Melanoma, in particular, is often fatal.

Research into vaccination strategies to help dogs' immune systems fight oral melanoma and radiation therapy to kill cancer cells may one day help make canine oral melanoma an easily treatable disease. In digital SCC, a condition that commonly affects black Standard Poodles, the goal is to raise awareness through a registry and collect information to aid in determining the mode of inheritance and thus allowing the eradication of the disease.

## Understanding Oral Melanoma

Melanoma is a rapidly growing cancer in which the pigment-producing cells of the skin multiply erratically, eventually invading the surrounding tissues. Though melanomas in humans are typically associated with excessive sunlight exposure over many years, melanoma in dogs has not been linked to sunlight exposure and does not necessarily occur in anatomic areas likely to receive a lot of sunlight exposure.

Most canine melanomas that appear in areas with hair are benign, but when found on the toenails, lips or in the mouth, melanoma is nearly always malignant and aggressive. It also commonly spreads, or metastasizes, from the original tumor site to the lymph nodes, lungs, brain and/or liver, where additional tumors develop that ultimately cause the death of an animal.

Melanoma is the most common oral cancer of dogs. It occurs most frequently in dogs with dark pigmentation in their mouths. At the veterinary teaching hospital at the University of California-Davis, 270 dogs over the past five years have been diagnosed with melanoma — nearly 10 percent have been Poodles.

Melanomas may be brown or black, but may also have

shades of red, white or blue. Some may have little or no pigment, so a melanoma may not always be reliably distinguished from other oral growths by its appearance only. Signs of oral melanoma include increased salivation, difficulty chewing, loss of appetite, weight loss, bad breath, bloody saliva, and loose teeth. Though they may occur at any age, canine oral melanomas most often occur between the ages of 7 and 11.

## Managing Melanoma

The prognosis for dogs with oral melanoma is grim because disease management generally is not effective. Melanoma is more resistant to chemotherapy drugs and radiation than many other tumors, and surgery provides limited relief because the cancer spreads so aggressively. Within two years of diagnosis, as many as 90 percent of affected dogs die from the spread of the cancer, according to information published by the Morris Animal Foundation. However, very small tumors that are treated with aggressive surgery can be associated with a relatively good outcome.

Research to find better ways to manage melanoma are currently under way on two fronts. Douglas Thamm, V.M.D., DACVIM, assistant professor at Colorado State University, and Ilene Kurzman, M.S., Ed.D, associate scientist at the University of Wisconsin, are developing a vaccine to stimulate dogs' immune systems to attack and destroy tumor cells. The vaccine activates the cells of the immune system, which causes activation in other disease-fighting immune cells to help ward off cancer.

The vaccine is composed of cells of an “allogenic” tumor (a tumor from an unrelated dog) that are grown in the laboratory, inactivated with radiation, and then genetically modified to produce chemicals called cytokines. Cytokine molecules attract and activate white blood cells. Ultimately, these altered melanoma cells are then injected back into patients through the vaccine. In effect, the cytokines train the immune system to recognize and kill tumor cells.

Using the vaccine, Thamm and Kurzman see evidence of tumor shrinkage in about 20 percent of dogs. Another 10 to 20 percent experience up to six months in remission. They have not yet identified why tumors shrink in some patients treated with the vaccine, but not in others.

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“When the vaccine has worked, the results can be gratifying,” Thamm says. “Some dogs have experienced dramatic remissions that have lasted longer than a year. They are still the exception rather than the rule, so there is much more work to do before we have a treatment that is effective at delaying or preventing the spread of the disease in the majority of patients.”

Thamm and colleagues are also about to begin another study to test whether radiation may stimulate, rather than suppress as generally thought the immune system. He will evaluate whether immunotherapy and radiation will achieve more when used together than either can accomplish when used independently.

#### Using Radiation to Fight Melanoma

Meanwhile, Michael Kent, D.V.M., DACVIM, DACVR, assistant professor at the University of California-Davis, is using gene expression to better understand why melanomas in dogs are more resistant to radiation than other tumors. Gene expression will provide insights into how gene information is converted into a cell’s structures and functions. He is looking at the molecular mechanisms of resistance to radiation with a goal of finding ways to overcome the resistance.

“I am working to find the causes of radiation resistance in oral melanoma by looking at gene expression in cell lines made from some of our clinical patients,” Kent says. “We also are looking at the effect of irradiation on gene expression in the cell lines and ways to block gene expression in resistant cells so the melanoma cells will become more sensitive to irradiation.”

Kent is testing a COX-2 inhibitor, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, to see if it makes tumor cells more sensitive to radiation without affecting healthy cells. COX-2 is a type of enzyme responsible for inflammation and pain and has been found to be over-expressed in many tumor types. At the same time, Kent is studying a number of specific genes that potentially cause resistance to radiation to identify the right ones to target.

“It’s going to take time, but I think we will tackle this horrible and aggressive disease and make it treatable,” Kent says.

#### Understanding Digital SCC

Black Standard Poodles are 12 times more likely than

the general dog population to suffer from digital SCC, says Brian Wilcock, D.V.M, Ph.D., a veterinary surgical pathologist in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Heredity is believed to play an important role in this cancer that also affects other large black dogs of a few breeds, such as the Giant Schnauzer and Labrador Retriever, more significantly than other breeds. “Why only black dogs have this increased risk, and why only in a relatively small number of breeds, remains a mystery,” Wilcock says.

Digital SCC is a malignant tumor that originates in the tissue beneath the toenail. Squamous refers to the flat cells that look like fish scales. In Latin, squama means the scale of a fish or serpent. Most dogs with digital SCC are taken to the veterinarian because of swelling of the toe. Some dogs have lameness, ulceration, discoloration of the quick, and breaking or splitting of nails. Most are treated for traumatic injury, penetrating foreign body, or some other inflammatory disease for weeks or months before anyone begins to consider the possibility of neoplasia. Most affected dogs are about 10 years old, but the tumor can develop in dogs as young as 4 years of age.

Digital SCC is diagnosed with radiographs showing lysis, or bone erosion, but a definite diagnosis requires tissue biopsy to distinguish squamous cell carcinoma from alternatives like chronic destructive inflammation and other types of neoplasia that may have different treatments or behaviors. Chest radiographs may be taken to determine whether the tumor has spread to the lungs, and a biopsy of the regional lymph node may also be taken to detect tumor spread, even though tumor spread is not particularly frequent with this disease.

#### Managing Digital SCC

Amputation of the affected toe at the metacarpal or metatarsal joint is the usual method for managing digital SCC. Recurrence adjacent to the affected toe and metastasis are rare, but the cancer will often show up in additional toes over time. Each affected toe is the site of a new primary cancer.

“There is no reason, in the great majority of cases, to undertake expensive chemotherapy or radiation,” Wilcock says. “You amputate the toe and hope for another couple of years before another toe is affected. I know of no way to predict how quickly other toes will

cont. on page 18

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cont. from page 16  
be affected, or how many.”

Lynn Wilkes of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, has had two black Standard Poodles affected with digital SCC. “Anessa” was first diagnosed with the disease at age 4 1/2, after yelping in pain when she slid into a wall during play. Four toes on three feet were affected by the time she died at age 8. “Ava,” the daughter of one of Anessa’s littermates, lost the first of three toes when she was 8. She is now 10 years old.

“When Anessa was first diagnosed as having SCC of the digit in 1998, I did not know much about the condition and was frustrated that I could not find much information, especially when I ultimately discovered that black Standard Poodles are at high risk for the disease,” Wilkes says.

#### Building a Registry

Wilkes decided to do something to help educate Poodle owners about squamous cell carcinoma of the toe. In 1999, she began a registry in which owners can list black Standard Poodles with digital SCC, with a goal of helping to raise awareness.

She also planned to provide data to a geneticist at the University of Ottawa. Unfortunately, the geneticist died. No research projects are currently planned, partly because there is no disease counterpart in humans to help drive the research, Wilkes says.

Still, the registry continues to gather information about disease incidence in black Standard Poodles as owners provide data about their dogs. All submissions are confidential. The registry can be found at <http://home.cogeco.ca/~anessa-ava/scc.htm>. The Web site also includes information about the disease and published articles on digital SCC.

“I have continued the registry because I want owners and veterinarians to know about the disease,” Wilkes says. “A veterinarian in Ottawa recently talked to me about the registry and said that when she hears an owner talk about a black Standard Poodle and a toe problem in the same sentence, she is immediately suspicious about SCC.”

Education and disease awareness are important missions, Wilkes says. “Squamous cell carcinoma of the toe has been expensive and has brought me a lot of

heartbreak,” Wilkes says. “If the registry can help others to learn about this cancer, perhaps breeders will take notice and be able to use the information to screen pedigrees and not breed from lines that carry digital SCC.”

*Used with permission from the Purina Pro Club Poodle Update newsletter, Nestle Purina PetCare.*

## **RALLY TO RESCUE SUPPLIES**

*Thanks to Purina, rescue organizations can get assistance from Purina and Pro Plan.*

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*Contact [www.rallytorescue.org](http://www.rallytorescue.org) for more information. This should be a help for rescue organizations.*

*If you have any questions, please contact me*

*Helen Tomb-Taylor*

## Whats in a name?

*How did you come up with your kennel name you use? That question will be asked to breeders in each variety for the Poodle Papers . This issue we have asked*

**Dr. Jacklyn Hungerland:** de Russy (that is the correct spelling) was a family name of my husband's. In fact, my son's middle name is de Russy. (My son is Thomas de Russy Boyd. His cousin, granddaughter of Gen. George Patton, was born on the same day and is Margaret de Russy Patton.) I chose to use the name to honor the family and, admittedly, because it is French. As a registered kennel name, I only had one incident that was embarrassing. A member of the de Russy family bought a Poodle and wanted to use the name in her registration, and it was denied! (I signed a waiver for the registration, of course.)

**Luis Aizcorbe:**In Cuba , as in most Latin countries,women continue using their family surname after they marry. My mother's maiden name was Ledia Beltran; after her marriage she became Ledia Beltran de Aizcorbe. The AIZBEL prefix combines the first syllable of my parents' family surnames. The name was first used in 1948, years before we moved to the USA after Castro's communist revolution.

**Lucille Perzan & Diana Gardner:** Caprice Toy poodles derived from the name of my first grooming shop. I originally chose this name as it was the make of a car I liked at the time and in the dictionary caprice is defined as “a sudden unusually unpredictable condition, change or series of changes”, which described the grooming business to a tee. Then I became interested in breeding and showing toy poodles which can be pretty much described the same thus Caprice Toy Poodles evolved. *Lucille*

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**Clubs please check your listings on line for changes needed!**

**Email changes on the club pages.Please no phone calls. Leslie & Lisa**

## Raffle at PCA

It's that time of year again.....our P.C.A. National specialty is just around the corner and the raffle table can always use some help. Jan Hopper nicely put it in the right light when she stated in her interesting Spotlight on a P.C.A. Member article that it takes a lot of great people to put on this great event. Volunteering at the raffle table can be fun and you do meet a lot of nice people when they come by to check out our wonderful raffle table donations and to buy raffle tickets with hopes of winning. Why not be one of these great volunteers and see for yourself. Please contact me to let me know you are available.



Alice Wolaniuk,  
Raffle Table co-chairperson  
445 Sassafras Rd.  
Warwick MD 21912-1211  
1-410-755-6719 (new number)  
awolaniuk@netgazers.net  
(new e-mail address)

## MOVING?

*Please if you have moved please email me your new address so I can update it to keep you getting the Poodle Papers. I only get one update a year otherwise so your issues of the Poodle Papers will drop if I don't have an up to date address on you.*

*Email lnewing@earthlink.net*

# THE DAY MY HEART STOPPED OR NEARLY DID!!!

It was actually December 9, 2005 when the attentive, young veterinarian I consulted in Mission, Texas, Dr. Michelle Fuentes, called to say: "Mrs. Carlson, I have some very bad news for you. 'Rosie' is positive for canine brucellosis." My heart nearly stopped; I could hardly comprehend her words. "Rosie" is our top-winning brown Standard Poodle, Ch. Ascot Vera Wang. I had taken her in for routine progesterone testing and a brucellosis test before driving her to California for breeding.

Further tests were run on that initial blood test. Blood was drawn from the other three bitches I had with me – one intact and two spayed. One of the spayed bitches also came back with a positive for brucellosis. More blood was drawn for retesting and culturing. The tests were run and rerun. More tests on all four Standard Poodles. We still had two negative for brucellosis: two positive for brucellosis – including our "Rosie".

The first result sent me to the Internet to learn all I could about *Canis Brucella*. I learned that it is highly contagious. I learned that it can be spread by sexual contact, exchange of any body fluids, including saliva. Transmission is congenital, venereal or by ingestion of contaminated materials. All ages and both sexes appear to be equally susceptible. Though none of my bitches had had litters with pups who died prematurely or any of the other common signs, the test result was still: POSITIVE FOR CANIS BRUCELLA.

Suggested treatments were not encouraging. Most information I found indicated spaying of affected animals – or EVEN EUTHANASIA – were most commonly indicated. The very idea of spaying or euthanizing any of my Poodles, much less "Rosie", was unthinkable. I was, literally, too frightened to even talk about this situation. I thought of the Poodles mine had associated with: I thought of the handler's kennel where one of my Poodles was while being shown. I was mentally terrorized.

Finally, I spoke of this horror to my good friend, Claudia Straitiff. Claudia immediately talked with Dr. Jane Barber, a theriogenologist who practices in Mooresville, NC. Dr. Barber advised to send blood IMMEDIATELY to the

Animal Health Diagnostic Center, Cornell University who has the "gold standard" in brucellosis testing. Blood from "Rosie" and the other spayed bitch, "Belle" was immediately drawn and sent on December 20, 2005. Somehow, I survived the immediately holidays which included the arrival of our family in South Texas. Testing results were delayed by the holidays, but tests results were finally received and I was notified on December 28, 2005 that the serological tests were NEGATIVE!

I CRIED WITH SHEER JOY AND RELIEF!

This summation of a terrifying time in the life of this Standard Poodle breeder is being written to warn all. Should you receive a positive brucellosis test do this: DO NOT waste time having the laboratory run and rerun testing. Immediately have blood drawn and sent to Cornell where definitive testing is done. Had we known what to do, "Rosie's" breeding cycle might have been saved and we could be enjoying her pups even as I write. Such was not the case. We look forward to the next heat cycle and the litter we have waited for so very long.

It is possible that someone might have reacted more quickly and spayed – or even euthanized - the supposedly affected animals. What a horrible outcome that would be. Young Dr. Fuentes was mortified that she did not know of Cornell's reputation in brucellosis testing. She, and I, now know. This valuable and expensive lesson needs sharing!

Glenna Carlson  
Ascot Standard Poodles

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# POODLE CLUB OF AMERICA REGIONAL GOES TO CALIFORNIA IN 2007 PENDING AKC APPROVAL

The Poodle Club of America regional will be held on September 19th, 2007 in Long Beach, California. The host club for the regional will be the Poodle Club of Southern California and will be having back to back shows on September 20th and September 21st, 2007. The Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club will also have their All Breed Shows on Saturday and Sunday following the regional shows in Cypress, California which is not far from the Long Beach venue. The Poodle Club of Southern California is the oldest affiliated club of the Poodle Club of America and was established in 1939 as Poodle Club of America, Pacific Coast Division.

We believe that we have a wonderful and lovely venue for the Regional. The host hotel for the regional will be The Coast Long Beach Hotel. ([www.coasthotels.com](http://www.coasthotels.com)) All of the area for the regional is located near the Long Beach Pier and offers a beautiful view everywhere you look. The confirmation classes will be within walking distance of the hotel in the Queen Mary Park and the obedience and rally will be on the grounds of the hotel. We plan on having some fun events for everyone who wants to participate such as boat rides and visits to the Queen Mary. September is a lovely time in California and it would be a great visit for your vacation. I and other Poodle Club of Southern California members will be at the National in June with flyers and more information for you to have to make your plans.

The Poodle Club of America and The Poodle Club of Southern California hope that when you make your plans for 2007 that you will join us for three wonderful days of Poodles at a location that is absolutely beautiful. We look forward to seeing you all at the REGIONAL-2007-CALIFORNIA EXPERIENCE!!!!

John Shoemaker, President  
Poodle Club of Southern California  
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*\*Judges on page 35*



# AKC Retriever Hunt Test Events Added to 2006 PCA National Specialty

*Written by Mia DiBenedetto*

**The Poodle Club Of America National Specialty** announces it will host its first **AKC Retriever Hunt Tests** to be held Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11, 2006. at Crop- Les Farm

The trial will include a Junior, Senior and for the first-time ever a Master level test.

## **AKC Junior, Senior and Master Hunt Tests**

Judging Masters will be **Sue Shaw** of Perkasie, Pa., and **Ted Finley** of Dover, Del. The Master test will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 10 and will continue Sunday, June 11, if necessary.

Judging the Junior and Senior levels will be **Joanne Summers** Allentown, PA., and **Jeff Brown** of Voorhees, N.J. The Junior and Senior Hunt tests will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 10.

**Sue Shaw** is no stranger to hunting poodles. Sue judged the **Working Certificate** and **Working Certificate Excellent** tests at the 2005 National Specialty.

Shaw, has owned and handled Curly-Coat Retrievers for over 15 years. She says she had so much fun last year; she is thrilled to return to judge the Master Level AKC Hunt Test event. She says she remembers when the Curly-Coats were first being shown at hunt tests, and says it's important to encourage new handlers to try field work with their dogs.

We want handlers to try at the Specialty, there's no embarrassment here," she says. But cautions that the dogs do need prior training before entering the hunt tests. "It's unfair to your dog, if he doesn't know what to expect."

Shaw said when the Curly-Coats were first involved they were very much like the poodles are today. Not

very many handlers had a great deal of practice so they all began together.

Proper training and instructions is necessary, however, says Shaw. At a hunt test there's no second chance, it's not as lenient as the WC/WCX tests can be.

Shaw offered some tips for the new handlers. She says when you come to the line to watch the Test Dog, before you leave, "be sure to turn around." Look behind you so you can see what your dog sees from the field.

"You want your dog to have every opportunity to be the best he can be".

Shaw says she usually wears black gloves, which she believes gives her dog more contrast when giving him directions. Please note, handlers must wear camo or dark-colored clothing at the line. If you are in short sleeves the gloves give you an advantage and provide more contrast so the dog can see your directions more clearly.

In addition, Shaw says the AKC Hunt Tests rules have changed, and you can't pass the test unless your dog can pass the Blinds. This, of course, applies only to Senior and Master level dogs, as Juniors are **not** required to be tested on a blind retrieve.

Most important, she says, is to have fun!

## ***Be Prepared, Practice Is Key***

Handlers should be aware that the AKC Hunt Tests are not "just" a more difficult form of the **WC** and **WCX** certificates. Dogs need to be ready to demonstrate hunting skills beyond the WC and WCX and need prior training and experience with live birds. The AKC requires that live birds be used in all levels, often times requiring that a dog retrieve a "cripple."

AKC Retriever Hunt Tests were designed to give the dog owner a good, basic hunting dog and provide a place to run and compete. Here the dog is not competing against the other entries, but against a "standard." This "standard" was established by AKC as a means of judging good hunting retrievers.

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Dogs are judged in three divisions; **Junior, Senior, and Master.**

### ***Junior Hunting Tests***

Dogs shall be tested on four single marks, two on land and two on water. Dogs shall be steady but may be brought to the line on leash with a flat buckle collar. Dogs may be restrained gently with a slipcord, or held gently by the flat buckle collar until sent to retrieve. English slip leads, prong, choke and pinch-type collars are prohibited. Leashes, including short tabs, shall be removed before dogs are run.

### **Senior Hunting Tests**

Dogs shall be tested in minimum of four hunting situations that shall include one land blind, one water blind (that may be run as a double blind on land and water), one double land mark, and one double water mark. There shall be at least one diversion shot and at least one of the hunting situations should include a walk-up.

### **Master Hunting Tests**

Dogs shall be tested in a minimum of five hunting situations as follows: multiple land marks, multiple water marks, multiple marks on water and land, a land blind and a water blind (at least one that shall be a double blind in any combination). There shall be at least three series. At least one of the series shall include a walk-up, diversion birds and/or diversion shots.

### ***Getting Started***

If you are going to enter a Hunt Test for the first time, it is advisable to start your training now. Probably the best way to become involved and to learn the “ropes,” is to contact your local **AKC Retriever Club.**

Clubs across the country can be located on the **AKC Web** site. On the site, first search for *Retriever Hunt Tests*, then click *Club Search*. Most clubs provide group-training sessions. A place where you can practice with your dog on live birds in a simulated Hunt Test situation.

### ***The First Time Junior Hunter***

### **At the Line**

It is good practice to try and walk to the line looking directly at the first mark. When you are at the line and sit your dog, give your dog a chance to settle and look out at the test grounds.

If you watch your dog you will see them look at each bird location. When they show they have recognized where the birds are coming from and you are ready, signal the judges you are ready. Take your time and do not hurry.

**When the first bird is out make sure you wait for the judge to release the dog before you send your dog!** If you send your dog before the judge releases the dog you are out!!

When you are training it is a good idea to silently count to 5 before you send the dog on a mark, this conditions the dog to a delay between seeing the mark and going.

In Junior stakes you will have the dog on a lead or hold them by the collar, even so, if you are leaning forward which you probably will be the dog can easily pull you off the line if they are conditioned to go as soon as they see the bird.

In hunt tests you will hold an empty gun or facsimile. In general you might consider holding the gun on the opposite side as the dog when you are sending and on the same side when taking the bird from the dog.

**Always make sure the gun is pointed in a safe direction and never points at a person or dog!**

When your poodle returns with the bird you should stand looking directly facing the next bird. Give the sit command and take the bird with the hand on the opposite side from the dog. Thus if the dog is on your right, take the bird with you left hand moving the bird across your body and place it on your left hip out of site of the dog.

The gun should be in your right hand acting as a barrier for the dog. Do not touch your dog until you have taken the bird! Motion to the judge to take the bird from your left hand by simply holding it out from your body and they will take the bird.

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Move the gun under your left arm if the dog is on the right and take hold of the dog's collar with your right hand and attach the lead if you are using one.

Take a moment to allow both you and your poodle to settle before calling for the second bird.

### **Distance**

Make sure your dog is comfortable retrieving to 120 yards on land. Too often you see first time dogs leave the line, go out 35 or 40 yards and break down and start hunting. They are conditioned to this distance, as that is about the maximum their owners can throw a bumper.

Handlers new to hunt tests usually sit their dog, throw a bumper, dokken or ball and then send the dog for the mark. In essence you are conditioning the dog to go a relatively short distance directly away from the trainer and line. At the Junior level you are not likely to see a mark thrown directly away from the line but rather a right-to-left or left-to-right and perhaps angled slightly back.

### **Cover**

Expose your dog to as great a variety of cover as possible. In all likelihood, the cover your dog works in at a hunt test will bear no resemblance to the clear area you have been throwing bumpers, dokkens or balls in.

You should not expect your poodle to be able to see the mark all the way from the line to the fall. More often than not, some factor such as a cover, a ditch, depression, mound or side hill will cause the dog to momentarily lose sight of the mark forcing the dog to remember the area of the fall.

### **Water**

Water became a real obstacle for the dogs entered in the tests at the 2005 Regional Specialty tests. It is essential that your dog be able to retrieve his marks in the water.

Usually Junior tests position the dog very close to and perpendicular to the water's edge. Dogs naturally will square obstacles such as hills, ditches, roads, and wa-

ter and must be conditioned to take an angled line, a line not close to 90 degrees.

The water at Crop-Les Farms in Maryland is excellent technical water and a dream for most experienced trainers with many points, islands and alcoves. Junior dogs will probably have a clear view of marks and will not have to force through cover or navigate water hazards.

It is a safe bet you will see decoys both on land and in the water. Make sure your poodle does not shy away from or try and retrieve them. Decoys are held in place by cords tied to small lead weights of a few ounces touching the bottom of the water. Dogs will often need to swim through a set and sometimes get caught up in an anchor cord, no big deal but first time dogs may be spooked and panic.

Many first time Junior dogs have not had very much exposure to water and thus are not very confident. The more you expose your poodle to water the more comfortable and confident they will become.

Do as much water work as you can!

### ***Gallery Protocol***

A word of caution. Watching the Hunt Tests is not the same as being a part of the gallery at the WC/WCX. During a hunt test there are restrictions on where you can sit, and what you must wear. Dogs are NOT allowed in any gallery areas. Cell phones and pagers are strictly forbidden.

Please be aware, the judges will require that the gallery be set off from the line and must sit in designated areas. Spectators are required to wear dark clothing, or camouflaged gear and will not be able to appear in the gallery with any white or very light colored clothing. Viewing at the WC/WCX is more lenient and allows for spectators to get a much better view of things. Because of these restrictions and the fact that multiple tests are being conducted at the same time, we are encouraging spectators to attend the WC/WCX test on Sunday instead of the Hunt Test on Saturday.

Spectators are welcome on Saturday, but must meet the above restrictions. Tests will not necessarily be in close proximity to the parking area and spectators on Satur-

cont. on page 25

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day should be prepared to walk further to gallery locations.

**The WC and WCX Certificates**

In addition to the AKC Hunt Tests, the 2006 Specialty will again play host to the **PCA Working Certificate and Working Certificate Excellent** tests on Sunday, June 11. Sue Shaw and Ted Finley will judge this year's WC and WCX certificates.

The **Poodle Club of America**, Inc. allows any registered Poodle over six months of age which meets the performance requirements to receive the **Working Certificate** and the **Working Certificate Excellent**. PCA's WC and WCX Tests are open to Standard and Miniature Poodles.

The purposes of these Certificates are to test the natural working ability of the Poodle and to demonstrate his interest in birds, his ability to take direction from the handler, his marking ability, his willingness to enter the water, and his trainability.

**Performance Requirements for a PCA Working Certificate or Working Certificate Excellent**

1. Retrieval of two single birds at approximately 50 yards on land for WC and a double bird mark at approximately 75 yards on land, with an honor, for WCX.
2. Retrieval of two single birds from water to prove willingness to re-enter water for WC and a double water mark for WCX.
3. The dog may be held on line, as steadiness is not required for WC, but the dog must be steady on the line for WCX.

4. The dog must not show fear of guns.

**Guidelines for the Evaluation of a Dog's Performance in a Working Certificate and Working Certificate Excellent Test**

1. The "retrieve" in the performance criteria for the WC indicates that the birds should be returned to the handler in such a manner that the handler could easily reach the bird. Delivery to hand, however, is required for the WCX.
  2. The WC test is a marking test while the WCX is a memory test:
    - a. On the land test, the bird should fall into only light cover for the WC and may have deeper cover for the WCX.
    - b. The water test should show the dog's courage to re-enter the water, therefore, angled entries, excessive distances in the water and the line to the water, and are discouraged.
    - c. One of the water retrieves should be done into swimming water if possible.
    - d. The local rules and the approved club rules regarding use of live birds should be followed.
    - e. Line manners are not to be judged in the WC test. The requirement for the bird to be delivered to the area of the handler is all that is required for the exercise to be completed. The WCX test does require steadiness on line and delivery to hand.

Good Luck and Have Fun with your retriever training. If anyone has any problems, questions or comments, please feel free to give me a call (401) 455-9234 or E-mail ([mia.dibenedetto@nbc.com](mailto:mia.dibenedetto@nbc.com))

**"A dog which marks the fall of a bird, uses the wind, follows a strong cripple, and takes direction from its handler is of great value."** (AKC Retriever Hunting Test Rules)

**DO YOU HAVE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR PCA IN JUNE YET ?**

**Trophy Donations**

*Mail donations to  
Lucille Perzan  
National Trophy Committee  
2414 Wilbur Cross Highway  
Berlin, Ct 06037*

**Make Checks payable to The Poodle Club of America**

# Welcome to Rally

## Part III

Off with the leash & on to Advanced

So now you have three qualifying scores under at least two different judges and your dog sports the “RN” title after his or her name. Congratulations! Give your self a pat on the back for the accomplishment and a pat to your poodle.

The AKC will mail you a pretty certificate that you can frame and keep as a reminder of what you and your team mate have accomplished. Now what? Take a few moments to sit back and decide what to do next. Of course you want to go on to Advanced and have fun with the “big dogs,” but before you send off that entry, I really suggest that you honestly evaluate both your and your dog’s performances in Novice. Did you squeak by with low scores? Were there stations that you as the handler failed to complete correctly, earning an IP (Incorrect Performance) deduction? Were there times during your trials that you really had to work very hard to keep your poodle’s attention on you? Was there a sense of teamwork and enjoyment on the part of BOTH you and your dog?

The jump from Novice to Advanced is a big one and you will not be doing yourself or your dog a favor if you enter before you are both ready. You may continue to exhibit in Novice B after earning your RN and for some teams this may be a wise choice. A few more qualifying scores in Novice may improve your teamwork and skills while you continue to train for the Advanced and Excellent classes.

The Advanced class has 14 possible new exercises including a jump and the Offset Figure 8 and various technical exercises such as the Halt-side step right-Halt (#40). When you review the Advanced exercises you will see that 12 of the new ones are control type exercises and ALL exercises are done

off leash. Two of the exercises are similar to Novice Call Front and Finish exercises with the handler calling the dog to a front position and then finishing left or right (41 & 42). Unlike in Novice, the handler may NOT step forward or backward to aid the dog and the exercise begins with a Halt rather than in motion. This is more difficult than it appears and is popular with judges. Be sure and read the description of the exercises and train yourself and the dog to perform it accurately.

Four Advanced exercises require that the dog “pivot” while the handler is moving. (#37, 38, 43 & 44) In each case the dog must move WITH the handler to perform correctly. In AKC rally seminars the comment has been made that a “pivot” should be made in a space no bigger than a paper plate. Think of the Directed Retrieve exercise in Utility. The Rally exercises are based on the same concept of the dog and handler moving together to face a new direction.

Another exercise that should be reviewed is the Halt-Stand-Walk Around Dog (#36). The basic exercise is not difficult and most dogs and handlers can easily learn to perform it well enough to avoid any penalties. What makes it unusual is that this is the only exercise where the handler is allowed to touch the dog in Rally without penalty. Read the description carefully and note that “In the Advanced Class, the handler may touch the dog, move forward to stand the dog and may pose the dog as in the show ring.” This applies only in the Advanced Class. If this same exercise is used in an Excellent Class, the handler is asking for a penalty if he or she touches the dog. While it looks so professional to merely give a stand command and signal and have the dog assume the stand position (tail wagging!) if you need to step forward or place your hand under the dog to get a Stand, you are allowed to do so in Advanced.

The two Advanced exercises that cause the most challenge for many trainers are the Send Over

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Jump handler runs by (#34) and the Offset Figure 8 (#39). The jump exercise is pretty easy to teach and most poodles love to jump; in fact that enthusiasm for jumping may be a cause for extra training as the dog must quickly return to heel position after the jump as the team continues to the next exercise. Keep in mind that the jump may be a high jump, bar jump or broad jump and be sure you have practiced all three with your dog. The rules do allow for the jumps to be decorated it is a good idea for you to expose your dog to jumps with streamers, balloons, wild colored paint etc before they see what to them is a "strange" jump in the show ring.

The Offset Figure 8 is popular with judges so expect it to be used often! A review of the exercise will remind you that the distractions may be food or toys and many judges will use tennis balls. This is not a difficult exercise to train but you need to put some time into it. A good "Leave it" command will help!

Before you send in your show entry for Advanced, it is a good idea to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of both members of the team. If you have had Novice trials that were sloppy and barely qualifying, you can expect poor performances in Advanced. As a trainer you should do any needed reinforcement of your basic foundation training as well as learn and perfect the Advanced exercises. As an exhibitor you should review and study the exercises until you are comfortable that you clearly understand how each is to be performed. Now that you have your RN title and have been to a few trials, you should have a good idea of what routine works best for you and your dog. A rest in his or her crate may be just the thing for your dog; for some dogs, time sitting in your lap observing may be better. A quick session of tug or play time may be what your dog needs to get revved up. A high energy level dog may need a five minute or more long down on a mat along side your chair to be ready to focus on you in the ring. Only after trial and error will you know how best to set your dog

up to handle the show ring in a successful manner so that both you and your poodle have a great time in Rally.

Next time, some comments about the Excellent class. The first year of Rally has been great fun and I hope that many of you have had an opportunity to participate in this great new sport!

Carolyn Wray  
cswray@comcast.

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## *Obedience and Rally*

June is quickly approaching and the Nationals will be here before we know it. Obedience and Rally will take place on Tuesday, June 13th, at the Wicomico Civic Center in Salisbury, Maryland. Here is your 2006 judging panel:

Mrs. Marie Huffman-OPEN B

Mr William Huffman-OPEN A & UTILITY B

Mr. Kenneth Nagler-NOVICE B

Mrs. Evelyn Vanuden-NOVICE A & UTILITY A

Mrs. Marilou McCloskey-ALL RALLY CLASSES

We are also offering a number of non-regular classes this year including pre-novice, grad-novice, grad-open, veterans, brace, team, and versatility. Start making plans not to enter the team competition and have the wildest costumes seen yet! Remember, your poodles don't have to be good, they just have to be funny!

Please, if you are coming and can lend a hand stewarding in the obedience or rally rings, contact the obedience chief ring steward, Ann Mandelbaum at 203 266-0836 or amandier@earthlink.net. If you have any other questions, feel free to contact me, Susie Osburn, at 702 262-0163 or lidopoodles@cox.net.

At the completion of judging, we will host our annual pasta party. Please plan and stay and dine with us. The food is always delicious!

I'll see you in Salisbury!  
Susie Osburn  
Obedience and Rally Chairman

## ***DOG OR BITCH?***

Which is better for performance, a dog or a bitch? This question is subject for much discussion in performance circles.

Many will answer “dog” without hesitation. When I was shopping for the puppy that eventually became CH OTCH MACH Braylane Betty’s Bein’ Bad TDX VCD3, the breeder told me that, if I wanted to do obedience, I should get a male. She stated with authority that males are more loyal, affectionate, have a greater desire to please, and are less moody than females. (I responded that I had observed none of these qualities in either of my former husbands.) She said that, in multiple-dog households, dogs get along together better than bitches—that they are less likely to fight. Male-dog-lovers observe that hormones keep unsprayed bitches in the doldrums for many weeks out of the year. My response to the breeder was that all that might be so, but that I did not like living with dogs, and that I would not consider one. And thus, 10-week-old Betty was shipped to me. Betty’s breeder has not changed her mind about the attributes of males, and I have not changed my mind about preferring to live with females, and Betty worked out “pretty well.”

I suspect that the virtues attributed to dogs are highly individual qualities that can be present (or absent) in either sex. That being said, the discussion quickly deteriorates into listing the advantages or disadvantages of living with each sex. There is much disagreement over which sex is easier to housetrain. It has been my experience that difficulty in housebreaking is not so much a male/female question as it is related to the size of the dog. The easiest dog that I ever housetrained was a male standard poodle, which simply NEVER went in the house from the age of 8 weeks on. The most difficult have been the toy poodles. In my general training experience with the public, I would say that toy dogs in all breeds are harder to housetrain than larger dogs. And males of small breeds are the hardest of all. There might be many reasons for this. Possibly breeders of small breeds are more likely to raise them entirely in x-pens and not take them outside at a young age. Perhaps because of the small size of the dog

## **IN MEMORY OF JOHN BIRDSONG BIRDSONG TOY POODLES LEFT US ON MARCH 4, 2006**

*We thought of you today  
But that is nothing new  
We thought of you yesterday  
And will tomorrow too  
We think of you in silence  
And speak your name in pride  
We relive your memories  
Of having you by our side  
Your memories are our keepsakes  
Which we'll never part  
God has you in his keeping  
And we have you in our hearts*

***Pat McMullen***

***Michanda Toy Poodles***

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and the small amount of urine produced, people may miss the start of the marking behavior, and only notice after bad habits are ingrained. It is hard to miss a standard poodle lifting his leg in the house. In my observations, the smaller the breed, the more likely owners are to be permissive and require nothing of them, which results in lack of respect in the dog for the owner and the owner’s “territory.”

There are many house-training issues that weigh in deciding which sex to get. Males may be more notorious for marking, but many females like to mark just as much as males. But in most cases, males kept for breeding are going to mark if kept in the house. It is part of the machismo that is needed to give him the confidence to breed. Both sexes can be submissive urinators, or “dribblers.” Some owners, including myself, like to train their poodles to use a litter box. This is obviously going to work better with females than males, since the males at some point start lifting their legs and miss the litter box.

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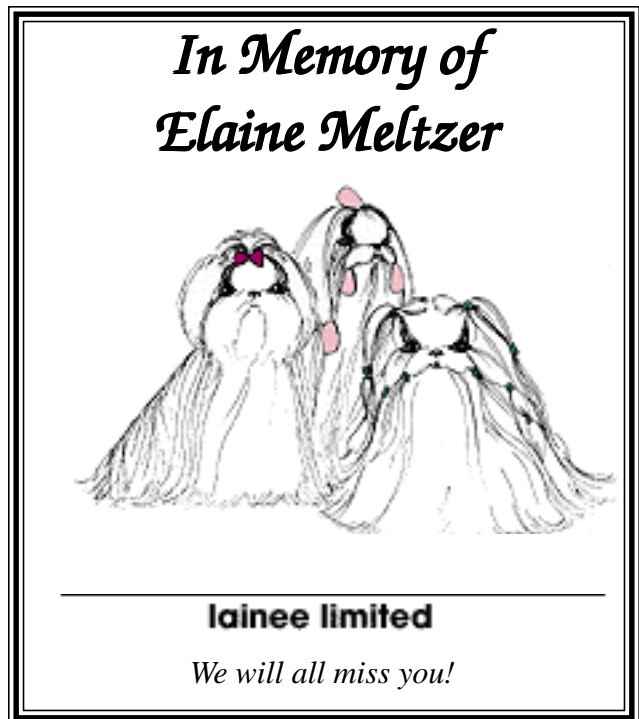
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Some male poodles are less than tidy about their bathroom habits, and may urinate on their chest hair or front legs. This is especially true of young males. I believe this is because most young poodles are “skinny” (abs of steel!), and their tummies are tucked up, causing their “aim” to be high. As they mature and their tummies fill out, the angle of the penis lowers so that they are more likely to miss themselves. They also get more expert with their leg-lifting as they mature. Many male-poodle-owners leave a tag of hair on the end of the penis to help deflect the stream downward so that the dogs are less likely to soil themselves. One also sees an ingenious array of protective coverings on young male show poodles when they are being exercised!

I prefer living with females for several reasons. Among them are the dogs’ leg-lifting—I don’t like urine all over the landscaping, porch, and outdoor areas, and if my bitch has an accident in the house, she usually has not ruined a wall or a piece of furniture when she does. I don’t like the fact that the males sometimes urinate on the other dogs, as my dogs share my bed and furniture with me.

Regarding the question of fighting among dogs or bitches, my experience has been that poodles of either sex will fight if allowed to. The best prevention is a strong human pack leader with a no-tolerance attitude towards fighting. The occasional dog or bitch that cannot be dissuaded from fighting is usually “psycho” in other temperament aspects, as well. This animal would not be one that I would keep to train or breed regardless of its sex.

On the subject of keeping intact bitches or dogs, people like to point out that bitches must be withdrawn from some performance events when in season, and false pregnancies cause general attitudes “funks” that can extend their useless period beyond the three-week heat cycle. My response is that intact males are “in season” 365 days a year, and although they do not have to be pulled from competition, they might be mentally handicapped by their hormones as much or more than bitches. Sex drive in individual males varies on a wide scale. I owned a standard poodle that, despite being corrected, would try to breed with any object, animate or inanimate, that he could get his front legs around. This included 55-gallon metal trash cans, arms of chairs, and



any unsuspecting guest in my home. He thought the stay exercise in obedience was a queue awaiting his services. Neutering lessened, but did not extinguish, this behavior in my canine Casanova. I have seen dogs in obedience which seemed to misunderstand the word “heel.” As soon as the owner commanded “heel” and moved forward, the dog wrapped himself around the handler’s leg or waist, and was ready to smoke a cigarette when the judge commanded “halt.” One dog I saw heeled nicely when the handler was moving, but mounted her when she halted. The judges had difficulties scoring them! But, I’ve seen other intact male dogs in which the mildest of corrections would dissuade them from this behavior, and an occasional bitch will try it, too.

For performance people who keep multiple dogs, keeping all one sex makes life much simpler. Even if the bitches are spayed and the dogs neutered, the amount of overt humping behavior, marking, and the males urinating on the females, will be greatly lessened by keeping only one sex. Needless to say, if bitches are going to be kept intact, keeping a male is going to be troublesome. If the male is also intact, the dog and bitch WILL find an opportunity to get together—it only takes an instant of inattention for the owner to suddenly become a “breeder.” Many people are not aware that even a neutered dog can tie a bitch. It may be “safe sex,” but more than one owner has been dismayed to

cont. on page 30

cont. from page 29

find their in-season bitch and neutered dog “stuck together.”

Most people have a preference for one sex or the other, so my advice to them is to GET WHAT YOU LIKE. Both sexes can make great performance dogs. The owner as well as the poodle will be happier when the owner has what he likes.

For those who have no preference, the best advice I ever heard was from an agility world team member who said, “If you find a great prospect, why turn it over?” She believes one should get the best prospect one can get and disregard its sex.

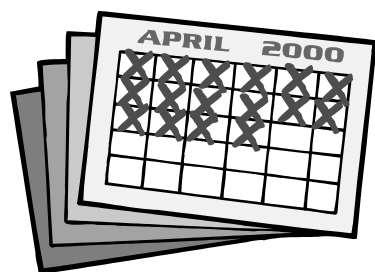
Joann Neal

Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog.

-Franklin P. Jones

Watch your mail for the PCA premium. Updated information will be available on the PCA homepage.

poodleclubofamerica.org  
poodleclubofamerica.net  
poodleclubofamerica.com



**DON'T BE LATE!!!!!!**

**ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE  
2006 NATIONAL SPECIALTY CATALOG  
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(please note - deadline extended)

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**In Memory of a Dear Friend “Kenny Billock”**

Being asked to write about Kenny’s love for the sport of dogs is an honor.

One could misunderstand his tough exterior, raised with his strong military background and being one of 11 siblings. Kenny really was just a big kid at heart. His love for dogs and children was obvious when you saw him with them. He was a mischievous, fun loving and a very caring person. Who when friends were down he had no problem staying late caring for their dogs, running to the hospital and doing what ever was needed at the time to help out.



Kenny came into my life over 15 years ago after being introduced by Jon Thompson. Jon knew Kenny when he worked for Bill Cunningham in his teens. That was his first real exposure to the dog show sport. Taking a Y in the road he experienced many different careers from raising birds to floral arranging. As well as dog grooming. When Kenny and I were introduced I owned the Pet Connection grooming salon and was handling full time. Kenny bred a nice litter of Maltese (CH Prince Ali Ala Baba) and was looking to get in to the dog show arena. Kenny started by working in the grooming shop. I trained him in coat care, show dog conditioning and training in the ring. We work together for about 7 years. He was like my wild red headed step brother more than an assistant. We made a real team and had a very special friendship. I spent more time with Kenny than my husband of now 20 years. My husband Chuck always said he felt safe when Kenny was with me. If Chuck only knew some of stories. I have hundreds of them some serious but most funny and one funnier than the next.

Like the time we where entered in Ravenna and groomed all day and into the night and of course as all poodle people know there is never enough grooming time. So we got there after the gates where locked with a 30 foot motor home full of poodles and no place to

park for the night. Both exhausted Kenny had the bright idea of driving through the corn field next to the show grounds. Must have been too tiered to have any sense. Kenny walked in front of the motor home and I drove trough unknown territory to our spot. Like no one saw use with a flash light followed by 30 feet of motor home bouncing around in the moon light!

Kenny would almost always accept a good dare! Like the time he watched a judge put up a beautiful blond with in his opinion one of the lesser quality Shih Tzu’s in the ring. He was dared to dress up like the blond for this judge. He went in with a skirt, high heels and a blond wig. He still lost but had fun doing it! 🙌

Another important mentor to Kenny was Camille Lashley. We met up with Camille at many dog shows. She was our never ending source of knowledge in the poodle breed and in life experiences.

When it came time for Kenny to go out on his own, I knew it was time, but it was hard to let go. I believe the saying is true; a good handler has great help!

By this time he had developed good hands on the dogs and could set a nice trim. He had helped me finish many dogs of many breeds. With goals of his own he and his partner of now 16 year opened a grooming salon called A Mirror Image. Joey Denno was Kenny’s great help and his best friend. He cared for the kennel and shop while Kenny traveled.

Kenny took his job as a professional handler very serious. It was important to Kenny that he earned the respect of his mentors. He went above and beyond what was needed. He worked so hard! He finished numerous poodle; many from the puppy classes. No matter what came his way, he always managed to do what was needed to get the job done, with the dogs and clients interest for most in mind.

There is going to be a void in the poodle ring and in our hearts. I know I am not alone when I say how much I do and will continue to miss him!

Kenny passed Feb 27, 2006 with Joey by his side!

Christina M Pawlosky



*PCA 2006  
Blue Ribbon Dinner*

*No travel time...it's after the show at the  
Wicomico Civic Center*

*FRIDAY, JUNE 16th*

*Casual Dress*

*No need to change clothes, just come as you are!*

*Good Food Good Fun Good Time*

*6:45 Hors d'Oeuvres*

*7:45 Plated Dinner*

*\$35 by reservation only.*


*Use page insert included in the  
Premium List*

*!!!!!!!Door Prizes!!!!!!!*

*Please plan to attend!*

*PCA 2006*

*Blue Ribbon Dinner*



## *Notes from Glenna*

As I write, we are waiting for the premium list to arrive for final proofing – then mailing date will approach rapidly. Target date for premium list mailing is April 13, 2006. We have made a couple of changes in the premium list this year. These we hope will make the premium list more useful. The pages that have to be removed to send in reservations – luncheons and dinner, grooming area, catalog orders – are separate inserts so the premium list does not have to be “cut up” as it did before. We hope this will be a good change.

We are excited about the Saturday and Sunday Retriever Hunt Trial to be held at Crop Les Farm. This added event will, hopefully, increase our performance entry and make Saturday and Sunday more action-packed than ever.

We welcome Steve Surfman to PCA week. Steve is a very talented action photographer.

Steve’s work can be viewed at [www.stevesurfman.com](http://www.stevesurfman.com). Great photos from Westminster KC, the Whippet trial and others are available. Take time to take a look. I know you will be as pleased as we are that Steve will be joining us.

On a personal note: I want to thank each of our Poodle friends who sent us their prayers, strength and positive thoughts during my husband, Ed’s, grave illness. Happily, I report he is making a wonderful recovery – very nearly back to his former self – and 100% is on the near horizon. This proves that PUSH works – “Pray Until Something Happens”!

THE GREATEST POODLE SHOW ON EARTH is just around the corner. We hope each reader will be able to join us as we know PCA’s 2006 edition will be the greatest show ever. See you there.

Glenna Carlson  
National Show Chairman

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## *Aids Memorial Quilt*

In 1996, Poodle Club of America chose to memorialize our Poodle friends who had died of AIDS. A program was planned and executed at the National Specialty in June. Volunteers made panels for the Aids Quilt, each panel representing one of our departed friends. Twenty two panels were hung on the walls of the Equestrian Center, the site of our show that year. Songs were sung, words were spoken, and it was truly a wonderful tribute to our friends. The panels were sent to the Aids Project and they became part of the thousands of panels which comprise the Aids Memorial Quilt.

Funds were collected from friends to finance this program, and after everything was paid for, there was money left in the bank account. It remained for all these years in that account, waiting for just the right moment to be dispensed. The Katrina hurricane last August seemed to be just the right occasion to give this money away. Thousands of dogs were victims of this tragedy, and the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association stepped up to the plate to care for as many of them as it could. Over 8,000 pets were cared for in the twelve temporary shelters sponsored by the LVMA. So the amount of \$900, the balance in the account, was sent to them to help in their efforts. Surely, the great guys who this money was collected for would have approved. Likewise, the people who donated the funds originally will now know where the last of their donations have gone.

Arlene Scardo

*Its coming.....the greatest Poodle Show on Earth!*

## Membership Roster for 2 years

The Poodle Club of America Roster has gotten bigger and with the cost of printing and mailing, the Board of Governors of Poodle Club of America has elected to do the Roster for a 2 year period. It will co-inside with the election year.

The Corresponding Secretary will send to the membership any changes after the first year. This will possibly will be labels that can be added in any area of change.

Since the next roster will be the first one for the two year period, PLEASE get any changes in to me as soon as possible. If you have second home address and numbers, please send this if you want to be contacted. If you are anticipating a move, please let us know an alternative. This roster is only as good as the corrections you submit.

For the Affiliate clubs, please get all of you officer, rescue and breeder referral changes to me or to Tom Carneal so you will be correct in the new format for the Roster.

Email any changes to  
HTombtaylo@aol.com

Thanks

Helen Tomb-Taylor

## Lanyards for PCA to ID you and your Kennel

Poodle Club of America will have available Lanyards with Laminated ID tags for you to wear at the National Specialty. This will be a blue and yellow Lanyard and a 10 mm Laminated tag with PCA LOGO, your name and kennel name.

You can pre order your lanyard for \$5.00 prior to PCA. The order information will appear in the PCA premium List. Your Pre ordered lanyard will be available to be picked up at the catalog table at PCA. Orders can be taken at PCA for \$7.00 as quantity las

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## AFFILIATE CLUB INFORMATION

Affiliate clubs need to check PCA's WWW site to be sure the Officer, Breeder and Rescue Information is correct. The information published in the Poodle Club Of America National Specialty Catalog and the upcoming Membership Roster will change only if the Affiliate clubs contact the Affiliate Club Chairman, Tom Carneal to make corrections.

Email Tom at [tomdave@asde.net](mailto:tomdave@asde.net)

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## PCA Agility 2006

Once again we will be having agility on Monday in air conditioned comfort. Our judge this year, Chris Dewey from Florida, is a favorite of everybody that has shown under her. We will be having our usual High In Trial award, along with the ever popular title ribbons.

We are excited to be having an action photographer at the trial to compliment the videos. Agility dogs take the best action shots!

Look for our premium list on the web site. If you will not be showing at the trial but would like to volunteer (no experience necessary) just email me at [Janbhopp@aol.com](mailto:Janbhopp@aol.com).

Jan Hopper  
Trial Chair

# POODLE CLUB OF AMERICA REGIONAL SPECIALTY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007  
COAST LONG BEACH HOTEL AND QUEEN MARY PARK  
LONG BEACH, CA.

## JUDGES, PENDING AKC APPROVAL, ARE:

TOY POODLES	MR. DANIEL AUGUSTUS
MINIATURE POODLES	MR. RANDY GARREN
STANDARD POODLES	DR. JACKLYN HUNGERLAND
INTERVARIETY	MR. LUIS AIZCORBE



*What a beautiful venue for this exciting Regional! I want to make my flight arrangements today! Poodle Club of Southern California plans wonderful events and entertainments for all. Johnny Shoemaker will be Regional Show Chairman, and he is as enthusiastic as anyone could possible be to make this a Regional of highest quality and greatest attendance. Let's all plan NOW to join Johnny and everyone else in Southern California in September, 2007. SEE YOU THERE!*

## *A DNA Test for Neonatal Encephalopathy*

Columbia, MO - The AKC Canine Health Foundation is pleased to announce that researchers at the University Of Missouri College Of Veterinary Medicine have mapped the disease locus, identified the mutant gene and the mutation causing the disease, and devised a DNA test which distinguishes normal, carrier, and affected Standard Poodles with Neonatal Encephalopathy.

**For more information, please consult our website:  
h t t p : / / w w w . a k c c h f . o r g / n e w s /  
index.cfm?article\_id=141**

Contact:  
Jeff Sossamon  
Director of Development  
AKC Canine Health Foundation  
PO Box 37941  
Raleigh, NC 27627-7941  
(919) 334-4010  
(919) 334-4011 (f)  
(888) 682-9696  
jds@akc.org  
www.akcchf.org

We're pleased to announce that the canine genome sequence has been completed with the Canine Health Foun-

dation being the largest nonprofit funder. Now, the canine sequence takes its place alongside the human and mouse genome as one of five premier tools that researchers worldwide will have at their fingertips - leading to the promise of quicker results, faster tests, and definitive therapies in the fight against canine and human disease.

*Dogs love their friends and bite  
their enemies, quite unlike people,  
who are incapable of pure love  
and always have to mix love and  
hate.*

*-Sigmund Freud*

*Perhaps you will attend the inaugural hunt tests at PCA this year, or the WC/WCX tests on June XX. The following article is written to assist the reader with understanding what skills are being evaluated in these tests, and why these skills are critical to a good hunting Poodle.*

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In early December 2005, four women, including me, headed to Harker's Island on the east coast of North Carolina for our first duck hunting trip. My husband, a lifelong hunter and an experienced handgun, shotgun, and rifle handler trained my three female friends to shoot for several weeks prior to the hunt. Above all else, gun safety had been the focus of our training. On the day before we left for the trip, about 20 people (mostly men) from the kennel where we train came out to see our shooting and sent us off with a few snickers and a "have a good time" likely not expecting to see us return with a duck.

We were attended on our trip by, Tony a professional Guide who also is a fellow kennel friend. Tony maintains several duck blinds in beautiful Core Sound area.

The four women on our trip had two things in common – we all trained our dogs for hunt tests — and none of us had ever been hunting. Lisa, Stacy and Amy have Labs. I have a Poodle. Luckily, I have encountered many people open to my Standard Poodle, Mulligan, and these three women were no exception. The downside was that Mulligan was due to deliver 12 puppies on December 12 – the hunt trip was December 1<sup>st</sup>. With temperatures in the freezing range there was no way she was swimming in the ocean. I was going to use a Lab, Sadie, who I have trained with before.

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The morning started with a 4:30 wake up and mad dash to layer on clothes suitable to a hunt on the open water of the Sound. Layers of clothing included Under Armor for warmth, a turtle neck and camo pants, and a waterproof thermal insulation suit to keep us dry on the following 45 minute trip over water to the blinds.

After loading dogs, decoys, guns, girls and guides onto the john boat — we were off. The dogs were thrilled to be in the boat and the excitement (for them) was evident. I was a little less excited. Those who know me well know I am not a morning person. One of my favorite quotes? "If the good Lord wanted me to see the sun rise, he would have scheduled it for later in the day." Pardon my digression.

After a ride full of frosty saltwater spray, crisp wind, and beautifully clear views of the starry night sky we arrived at the first blind, an open water blind. This means basically a plywood box standing on stilts, covered with reeds, in the middle of the water on the Sound. Oh, and with a wooden bench across the back that you, your hunting partner and guide, and the three dogs share. Luxury it is not.

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By 7:20, Tony has set out the Decoys in a "J" pattern. We learn that such patterns are geared towards the ducks one is trying to bring in, the way the wind is blowing, and therefore the way the water current is flowing. I quickly assess the situation and determine that Tony is definitely NOT making enough money (this surmised as I am trying to switch focus from the fact that the coffee is undrinkable, ruined by shards of glass from the broken Thermos lining).

Tony has placed the decoys by hiking around in water up to his wader covered armpits – tangling and untangling decoy nets, tossing and hauling in, and re-tossing decoys to get them "just right." "How picky are these ducks anyway?" I wonder.

We are ready to fire off our first shots as soon as

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said ducks make their appearance anytime after sun-up. At 7:30 a.m. as if on cue, the excitement begins. The ducks approach head on – Redheads we’re told excitedly. Cream of the crop ducks for eating—woo hoo! Shots were fired. In a moment it was over.

Oh, darn, we’re supposed to shoot those ducks aren’t we? Having almost broken my nose with my first fire of the shotgun (hey, it was early, I forgot to shoulder the gun securely and it kicked into my nose) I got serious. When you miss the duck, the dogs look at you like, “You idiot, the bird was RIGHT THERE. Why isn’t it now floating on the water?” They scan the water, excited, and then suddenly as if to say “darn” they lay back down.

Lesson number one in dog handling: Line Manners.

Line manners are when your dog, sits under control, until you send it. It doesn’t jump off the ramp “thinking” that you hit the bird, it waits for you to say “go for the bird” by saying the dog’s name. At hunt tests and at a WC or WCX test, your dog is evaluated by the judge for good line manners. The dog is to be under control, doesn’t leave the line until told, goes when told, and returns promptly to the handler’s side presenting and releasing the duck with ease.

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With banging my head upon the entry to the blind and almost breaking my nose with the kick back of my gun behind me, I finally start to click on all cylinders. Lisa and I are pretty confident the birds have sent out a signal to ALL other birds: “Hey buddies! Feed over at THAT blind, those girls can’t hit an elephant with those shots.” Tony does not give up on us. He resumes his duck calling, and in the ducks come again. The excitement builds as the birds swing in, making a half circle approach, and Tony is whispering “Take ‘em!” This time, my shooting partner Lisa and I are on – and we knock down two ducks simultaneously.

Now it is time for the dogs to do the retrieve.

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“Marks, Doubles and Blinds & Handling”

A “mark” is when a dog sees the bird fall, and visually “marks” the fall. When you send the dog (by his name), he heads for the point where the bird fell. A dog that marks well will go directly to the area of the fall and quickly locate the game, pick it up, and return to the game to the handler.

A judge in a WC or WCX test evaluates a dog’s “marking” ability by observing the attentiveness of the dog, the line the dog takes to get to the “fall”, the extent of the “hunt” the dog puts on to find the bird and the crispness with which the dog picks up the bird. The faster all of the above is done, the better.

A “double” is more difficult for a dog. It has to see two or more marks (in the above case, ducks shot) fall, remember those falls, swim or run out to the first fall, return it, be sent by the handler back to the second fall, and return it.

It is standard for a talented hunter to knock down multiple birds in one sighting – for example shoot a “double” which is why this skill is important and evaluated at tests.

A judge in a WCX test evaluates the performance of the dog and handler running a double by observing the dog’s “memory” or how well it “marks” a “double” fall. Once the dog brings back the first bird, the handler has the opportunity to line the dog up to the second fall, but the dog should mark the second fall, especially on land, with ease.

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With Lisa and me, recall that it took two of us and six shells fired to kill two birds or a “double.” The dogs are a little taken aback by the high fives going on between Lisa, myself, and Tony after our kill, but they still know they have a job to do!

There is one final twist of the experience – and the

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last hunting vocabulary word and hunt test evaluation component for this article.

Our dogs were inside the blind, not outside the blind, so they had not been able to “mark” or see the fall. The dogs would be dependent on us to guide them to the falls and bring them back twice. Therefore, the fall is a “blind” fall to the dog, meaning the dog doesn’t see it fall, but trusts the handler to show him the way to the downed game

“Blinds” really stumped me when I started Hunt Tests and hanging out with hunters. You sat in a blind and you ran blinds. So there are two kinds of blinds. One is a place you sit. The other describes whether or not the dog “saw” the fall and describes an experience where you have to “handle” the dog to the fall.

A “blind” is a difficult concept for a dog, and demands the best partnership and trust between the hunter/handler and the dog. A series of directional hand signals are developed and the dog is trained so that a handler/hunter can “handle” or control the path the dog takes to the bird to assure that the game is returned.

Technically, you should not see “handling” at a WC or WCX test or an AKC Junior Hunt Test. These tests are all “marking” tests where the dog is evaluated for his memory. However most tests allow for one “handle” which is why it is important for the observer to understand. The team of dog and handler working well together is a pleasure to watch and makes my skin prickle every time I see it well executed.

There are a lot of intricacies to handling. But for our purposes here, suffice it to say that the dog must first take a line that the handler/hunter determines is the correct way to the fall. The dog must stop on a whistle, turn to face the handler or hunter and preferably sit to face the handler/hunter on the whistle. And depending on the angle and side of the handler/hunter’s cast, the dog must interpret the signal and take the angle and direction of the

cast and follow that line to the dropped bird. This can take many or few whistles as long as the dog takes the direction of the handler each time a whistle and cast are given.

A hunt test or WC/WCX judge is watching the dog and the handler work as a team. He is evaluating the responsiveness of the dog and the adeptness of the handler at working with the dog to collect the fall. Refusals by the dog to the handler’s signals reduce the overall rating. Handlers are expected to keep the dog on a tight or straight line to the bird – no great deviations from the line allowed.

Retrieving on water adds lots of difficulty that we don’t need to go into here, but basically, a water mark moves with the current. If the dog does “mark” the fall, he is going to swim to the area where he saw the fall hit, but on water the current has carried the game “out” of the area of the fall, and the dog must trust the handler to guide him “to” the fall. This is a laborious concept to teach, because a dog’s instinct is counter to the desire to “trust” the direction of a mere human.

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A three day trip was full of far too many experiences to share in this small space. We were quite successful at collecting our limit each day. But most importantly, we were able to see the concepts of testing in a real life situation – and grew more confident in our test preparation as a result of seeing the concepts in action.

Claudia A. Straitiff  
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# Deadline for the next newsletter is June 25th.

# *The Latest on Paws From AKC*

PAWS Discussion Draft Released  
[Thursday, March 16, 2006]

Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA) and Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) today released a "Discussion Draft" of an amended version of S. 1139, the "Pet Animal Welfare Statute of 2005" (PAWS). The Discussion Draft includes language clarifying several original provisions and adds some new provisions which resulted from input following a November 2005 hearing on the bill.

The Discussion Draft of the new bill contains the following clarifications and additions:

## CLARIFICATIONS:

\* All references to hunting, security and breeding dogs are eliminated from the dealer definition in both PAWS and the existing Animal Welfare Act, ensuring that persons selling such dogs are treated the same as persons who sell dogs for any other purpose.

\* The "retail pet store" exemption has been redefined to include only business establishments that do not import dogs and cats for resale and which maintain a physical premises that is open to the public and where pets are sold. Persons who sell exclusively over the Internet or through mass media advertising and do not maintain a public retail establishment would be covered under the Act.

\* The language is clarified to assure that wholesale, rather than retail, sellers of animals (as defined in the Act) other than dogs and cats are classified as dealers. In addition, the small wholesaler exemption is increased from \$500 gross income annually to \$2,500 gross income annually.

\* The language regarding the "dealer" exemption for retail sellers has been clarified:

o If you are not a breeder but are selling at retail, you are exempt from dealer status if you do not sell more than 25 dogs and cats in a calendar year.

o If you are a breeder, you are exempt from dealer status if, in a calendar year you do not sell more than 25 dogs and cats bred or raised on your own premises, or the dogs and cats from not more than 6 litters born or raised on your premises, whichever is greater,

and do not sell more than 25 other dogs and cats not bred or raised on your premises.

\* The language pertaining to the source records required to be maintained by dealers and retail pet stores who acquire dogs or cats for resale is clarified to make it consistent with the requirements of state law in states which require such records.

## ADDITIONS:

\* An explicit exemption is included for animal shelters, rescue organizations and other persons who do not operate for profit and do not import dogs or cats for resale.

\* A new provision has been added that would exempt all who breed or sell more than the aforementioned thresholds (as long as they do not import dogs or cats for resale and sell dogs and cats only at retail), if they are inspected by a third-party non-profit organization that has animal care standards and inspection protocols which are as protective of animal welfare as those promulgated by the USDA under the Act.

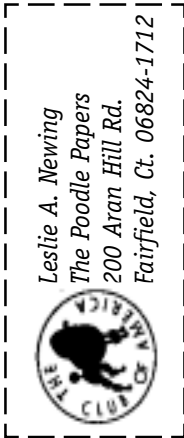
\* The draft calls for safeguards that protect the privacy of persons inspected by such not-for-profit organizations who are in compliance with the organization's standards.

\* The USDA would be required to regulate the importation of dogs and cats for resale, including requiring that dogs and cats imported for resale be at least six months of age and comply with health and vaccination requirements.

Further details on this discussion draft are available on Sen. Santorum's Web site.

The next step in the legislative process is for a new bill containing these provisions to be introduced or for the discussion draft to be offered as an amendment to the current bill. In either case, the new bill will reflect the edits contained in the discussion draft.

A dog is the only thing on  
earth that loves you more  
than he loves himself.  
-Josh Billings



*To:*

*First Class Mail*