



# Newsette



WWW.VHOC.ORG

P.O. BOX 10132 CANOGA PARK CALIFORNIA 91309



Ah Thanksgiving...that annual meal of quiet appreciation with family and friends.



Hope Yours Is Great!

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### REMINDER

Remember to check the website

<http://www.vhoc.org>

for announcements, cancelled classes,  
upcoming events and other important club information.

If you know of a member who would appreciate  
receiving correspondence, such as a get-well card,  
sympathy card, etc., please email our Corresponding  
Secretary, Melody Myers, at  
[ruby\\_mudpie@hotmail.com](mailto:ruby_mudpie@hotmail.com)

## VHOC Board of Directors

**President**  
Ann Hills

**Vice President**  
Deborah Lang

**Treasurer**  
Michael Frumkin

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Melody Myers

**Recording Secretary**  
Shirley Frumkin

**Membership**  
Carole Hills

**Publicity**  
TBA

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Laurie Burnam

**Agility Trial**  
Nancy Giltner

**Training**  
Laurie Burnam  
Sarah Sykes  
Kim Simons

**Past President**  
Jennifer Voogt

## VHOC Standing Committees

**Agility Trial Volunteer Workers**  
Nancy Giltner  
Kim Simons

**Banquet**  
Kathy Spilos  
Linda Brooks  
Ann Hills

**Catalog**  
Carole Raschella

**Food & Hospitality**  
TBA

**General Meetings**  
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**Newsette**  
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**Top Dog Captains**  
Patti Rovtar  
Cindi Malchose

**Trophies**  
Sarah Sykes  
Deborah Lang  
Joyce Davis

## Got News?

*Do you have a brag? Did you get a new puppy? Is your dog celebrating a birthday?  
Do you have other dog-related news, photos, articles, humor or upcoming events you'd like to share?*

*Do you have a canine product or service you'd like to promote?*

*Ads are only \$10.00 a month, or \$50.00 for an entire year.*

Email me for more information, or just send your stuff to:

Carole Raschella  
[carole@raschella.com](mailto:carole@raschella.com)

**Submission deadline is the 8th of each month**

**This is YOUR Newsette...make it great!**

## Bragg!

**Sharon Clarke and Flynn:** *October 5, 2014, Southern California Ibizan Hound Club, Chino, CA*  
**New CAX title!** (Coursing Ability Excellent; 25 qualifying runs)

**Sharon Clarke and Flynn:** *October 11 and 12, 2014, Bakersfield Obedience Training Club, Bakersfield, CA*  
 Open B, 198, 2nd place  
**New Grad Novice title!**  
 Open B, 196.5, 5th place

*On Saturday, in Open B, Flynn was tied for 1st place, but we were bested in the heel-off and received second place for our efforts.*

*Sharon Clarke*

**Sharon Clarke and Flynn:** *October 18 and 19, 2014, Del Valle Dog Club, Pleasanton, CA*  
**New Versatility title!**

*Flynn completed his Versatility title this weekend...So, that means that he has completed four (4) titles in as many weekends...Grand Championship, CAX, GO and VER.*

*Sharon Clarke*

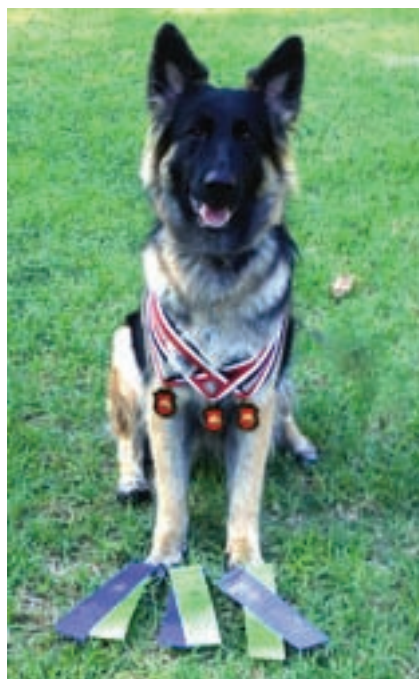




## More Brags!

**Sharon Clarke and Flynn\*:** *September 28, 2014,  
Burbank Kennel Club,  
Van Nuys, CA*  
**New Grand Champion!**

**\*GCh Keygolde Whiskey River CDX, RN, CAA, BHN**



**Kathy Spilos and Caelia:** *September 21 and 22, 2014,  
German Shepherd Specialty shows*  
Rally Adv, 1st place  
Rally Adv, 1st place  
Beg Novice, 192, 1st place

**Kathy says, "WHOO HOO way to go my 'little' one! I'm so proud at how much Lia learned and did in only a few short weeks of practice. Now we'll focus on polishing up our skills and look forward to completing both these titles soon!"**

## Welcome to our New Members!

*(in order to activate membership, applicants need to attend one general meeting or volunteer to help at a VHOC event)*

Ronda Harvey and Pomeranian, Maltese mix and Chinese Crested  
Doribeth Elkins and Golden Retriever, Standard Poodle and Beagle  
Annette Ankele and Smooth Fox Terrier and Wire Fox Terrier  
Cynthia Casby and Collies  
Jane Nye and Cardigan Welsh Corgi  
Robert Cabral and Belgian Malinois  
David Jackson and Golden Retriever  
Tracy England and Border Collie

## More Brags!

**Allison Pobirs and Ladd\***: October 18, 2014, Hidden Valley Obedience Club  
 UDX, 2nd leg  
 Open B - Alvin Eng  
 Utility B - Betty Ribble

*\*On Target's Without Question*

**Allison Pobirs and Ladd\***: September 13, 2014, ASC of Southern California  
 Open A, 1st place New ASCA CDX Title! HIT! (Judge Gina Grissom)

*Holy Smokes! Ladd wasn't the only thing that was hot today, it was 105°. Despite the incredible heat everyone was in good cheer, making the best of the day.*



**2nd UDX Title**



**ASCSC HIT**



**CDX Title**





## *More Brags!*

### **Australian Shepherd Club of America** National Specialty *October 31-November 8, 2014*

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *October 31-November 8, 2014, ASCA Nationals Bryan, TX*

Rally Excellent 197 1st place **New Title! RAX!**  
Novice B Obedience 191.5 5th Place **New title! CD!**  
Novice Agility Regular 10 Q 1st Place  
Novice Gamblers 10 Q 1st Place  
Novice Jumpers 10 Q 1st Place  
Novice Jumpers 10 Q 2nd Place  
Started Sheep 75 1st leg 5th Place  
Conformation Evaluation 78.5 Above average score  
MVA - Most Versatile Aussie Participant and Qualifier

*“Q’d in 8 out of 10 classes entered, not bad for a 2 year old dog and her first Nationals. She now has 20 titles to date in agility, herding, obedience and rally.”*



## More Brags!

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *July 19, 2014, NADAC Agility, Stone Pony Ranch, Moorpark*

Novice Jumpers 10 Q 1st Place  
 Novice Regular 10 Q 2nd Place 2nd leg  
 Novice Touch N Go 10 Q 1st Place 1st leg  
 Novice Touch N Go 10 Q 2nd Place 2nd leg  
 Beginners Agility Pass 1st leg  
 Beginners Agility Pass **New title! BA!**

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *August 23, 2014, ASCA Agility, Kenny Grove Park, Fillmore*

Novice Gamblers 10 Q 3rd Place **New title! GS-N!**  
 Novice Regular 10 Q 1st Place  
 Novice Regular 10 Q 1st Place  
 Novice Regular 10 Q 1st Place  
 Novice Regular 5 Q 2nd Place  
 Novice Jumpers 10 Q 2nd Place

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *September 7, 2014, NADAC Agility, Gabrieleno Park, Lakeview Terrace*

Novice Extreme Gators 5 Q  
 Novice Extreme Gators 10 Q

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *September 13-14, 2014, ASCA Rally and Obedience, Kenny Grove Park, Fillmore*

Advanced B Rally 196 1st Place 2nd leg  
 Advanced B Rally 200 1st Place **New title! RAX!**  
 Novice B Obedience 1st Place 1st Leg  
 Novice B Obedience 2nd Place 2nd leg

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *September 20-21, 2014, Antelope Valley Stockdog Club, Task Farms, Leona Valley*

AHBA Junior Herding Dog pass  
 AHBA Junior Herding Dog pass **New title! JHD!**

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *September 27, 2014, ASCA Rally, Soledad Canyon, Acton*

Excellent A 199 1st Place 1st Leg **HIT!**  
 Excellent A 197 1st Place 2nd Leg

**Laurie Burnam and Scusi:** *October 11-12, 2014, Antelope Valley Stockdog Club, Task Farms, Leona Valley*

AKC Pre Trial Herding Class Pass  
 AKC Pre Trial Herding Pass Class **New title! PT!**

## *The History of VHOC 1953-1956*

In 1953, Robert (Bob) Burd and his wife, Helene, of Reseda, CA (along with their Weimaraner, Heidi), founded Valley Hills Obedience Club to “sponsor and promote the training of dogs, to strive for the better care and control of dogs, and to conduct obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.”



With Bob serving as its first President, the club offered Thursday evening beginning and advanced obedience classes, and held monthly dinner meetings at a restaurant in Tarzana. Dues were set at one dollar per year.

By 1955, the club had grown to 100 members and was widely mentioned in the local press, rivaling the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, American Legion and other community organizations in popularity, and drawing frequent spectators to its weekly training sessions.

Classes were held at Reseda Park, on the corner of Reseda and Victory Boulevards, and remained at that location for the next fifty years before moving to the present site at Canoga Park Lutheran School. The first sessions were taught by Fred Von Huly, a well-known trainer whose goal was to “teach the owner how to teach his dog with patience and kindness,” and were supported

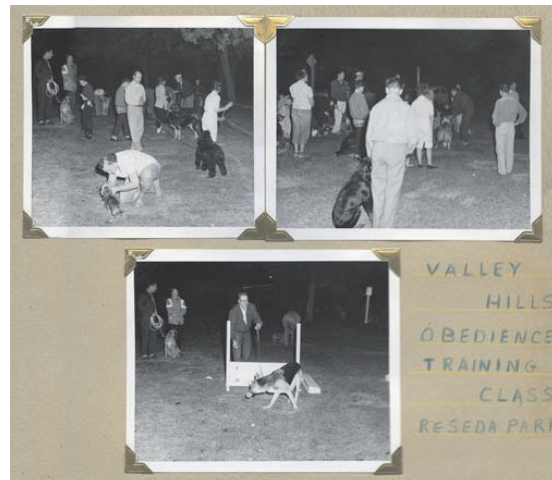
by the Department of Animal Regulations in its belief that “if the vast population of dogs in this city were trained, there would be no dog problem and legislation to restrict and control dogs would be unnecessary.”

The beginning class covered the basic AKC Novice exercises - heel on leash, figure 8, stand for exam, heel off leash, and recall. Students would then move on to the advanced class, where they would learn the standard exercises performed in the AKC Open Class, including the directed retrieve, drop on recall, and broad jump. The last class of each series began with a competition for trophies and awards, followed by a formal graduation ceremony.

Anyone living in the Valley during those years would know the Hangman’s Tree on Ventura Boulevard. Although it’s now the location of a mini-mall, it was a popular restaurant named for the huge sycamore that shaded its west side, said to be the place where horse thieves were strung up. Which would account for the effigy of “Reseda Red” dangling from its branches! On the last Friday of every month, it was host to VHOC’s

8.

TARZANA SHOPPER	
Organization Calendar	
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	8:30 p.m. Tarzana Community House
Board of Directors—3rd Tues.	General Meeting—2nd Tuesday
ROTARY CLUB	7:00 p.m. Hangman's Tree—Every Tuesday
LION CLUB	7:00 p.m. Hangman's Tree—Every Thursday
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMAN'S CLUB	7:00 p.m. Tarzana Community House—First Thursday
AMERICAN LEGION	POST NO. 687
8:15 p.m. Tarzana Community House—2nd & 4th Wed.	
TARZANA WOMEN'S CLUB	12:30 p.m. Tarzana Community House—2nd & 4th Thurs.
1st Tues. Card Party & Luncheon	
TOASTMASTER CLUB	Wednesday — 7:00 P.M. Coolibah Restaurant
VALLEY HILLS OBEEDIENCE CLUB	Last Friday of every month, 7:30 PM — Hangman's Tree.
WEST VALLEY CIVITAN CLUB	12:00 noon—Encino Inn Every Thursday





## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

dinner meetings, with frequent celebrity guests such as Bill Koehler, one of the foremost trainers of his time and author of several bestselling books.

On February 18, 1955, it was where Carl Spitz, a nationally famous trainer and honorary club member, passed the gavel from Bob Burd to the new, incoming President, Chuck Alvis. Chuck and his wife, Rena, were prominent members of VHOC but nine months later, they relocated to Iowa, leaving Vice President Helene Burd to assume the role of President pro tem, until January, 1956, when Bob Burd once again took over the position.

During those first three years, the beginning of formal dog obedience classes in the San Fernando Valley was only one of many activities initiated by VHOC. Saturday afternoon practice rings drew as many as 40 people each week, and beginning in August 1955, children as young as eight and as old as sixteen attended a popular juniors class on Saturday mornings taught by Frances McFall.



### **Dog Training Class Starts Wednesday**

The Valley Hills Obedience Club, a non-profit organization dedicated to the better care and control of dogs, will start a training class for all breed dogs in "Beginners' Novice."

The class will start tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. at Studio City Park.

The class will be trained by Jerry Orth, an AKC judge. To register for this class call either Dickens 5-1897 or POplar 1-5370.



### **VALLEY TIMES Obedience Class For Dogs Slated**

An obedience training class for all-breed dogs will start tomorrow under the sponsorship of the Valley Hills Obedience Club, a nonprofit organization.

The class will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Studio City Park, 12621 Rye St. Further information on registering may be obtained by calling either Dickens 5-1897 or POplar 1-5370.



In addition to those at Reseda Park, classes expanded to a location in the 17000 block of Ventura Boulevard in Tarzana, now occupied by a car rental company. Several club members' dogs worked on what was then the new "Lassie" series, as well as other lesser-known, local shows, such as "Wrangler Jim" and "The Pan Pacific Show."

## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

A major highlight during those years happened in February 22, 1955, when Bob and Helene Burd were presented with Dog World's annual award for "Outstanding Service to Dogs" during the previous year. This was a prestigious national award, an honor to its recipients and quite an accomplishment for members of a club founded only two years earlier.

All the local newspapers – Valley Times, Reseda Life, The Green Sheet, the Pink Sheet, Reseda News and the Encinian – ran the story.

**Dog**

### **National Award for the Burds -- Reseda Couple**

Bob and Helene Burd of Reseda have been named as recipients of a national award for their "outstanding service to dogs in 1954."

The Reseda couple, who live at 18611 Calvert St., were first nominated for the honor by the Valley Hills Obedience Club.

The award, a highly coveted honor among dog fanciers, was presented in the form of an engraved scroll at a recent meeting at Hangman's Tree in Tarzana. Miss Hellen Marr Van Tuyl, a resident of Tarzana, presented the award to the Burds. Miss Van Tuyl is well known in the southland for her outstanding work in obedience training and breeding of the dachshund.

Persons interested in knowing more about the Valley Hills Obedience Club and its activities may contact Mrs. Rena Alvis at DI 3-9881 after 5 p.m.

*"RESEDA LIFE" - MAY 4 - 1955 -*





## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

In May, 1955, West L.A. Obedience Club held the first AKC sanctioned OA match in Southern California, and less than three months later, on August 6, VHOC held the first nighttime OA match, with a record 185 entries.

RESEDA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1955

### Club To Hold First Sanction Match At Reseda Park This Saturday

The first sanctioned all-breed obedience match of the Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc. will be held Saturday at Reseda Park, Reseda and Victory Blvds., from 7 to 11:30 p.m., with entries to close at 6:30 p.m. Permission for the one-day unbentched show, open to the public, has been granted by the American Kennel Club for the holding of the night event under American Kennel Club rules.

Match secretary is Robert E. Burt, 18021 Calvert St., who states that mail entries must be received before midnight tomorrow and may be mailed to the Valley Hills Obedience Club, Box 2, Reseda. Entry chairman is Doris E. Campbell.

Judging for Novice A, Part 1, will be Steve Brodie; for Novice A, Part 2, Zella Nicolas; Novice B, Paul Minor; Open A, Part 1, Howard Cross; Open A, Part 2, Al Roderick; Open B, John Campsie, and Utility, Carl Spitz.

**Columist To Award**  
Newspaper columnist Alice Scott ("Blue Ribbon Dogs") will present the Club award of a silver fox trophy for the highest scoring dog-of-the-day.

Individual members are offering silver fox trophies for each class and for special awards which include highest score handled by both junior boy and girl handlers, 16 years old or younger; highest scoring collie, beagle and German shepherd. Ceramic trophies will be awarded the dog making the highest qualifying score in each section of Open Class A, being shown for the first time in open competition, and for Open Class B.

**Committee in Charge**  
Assisting Burt on the obedience trial committee are John and Marie Schuster, Betty Mendeshall, Barbara Zamuto, Helen Mary Van Tuij and members of the board of governors. Other committees are: Helene G. Burt, chief steward; Brandon C. Hobert, trophy

chairman, Henry Schley, official photographer; Oia and Al Harrison, public address system, and Dr. Philip L. McClave, veterinarian.

1955 Obedience Match  
Novice Winners



Novice A



Novice B



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

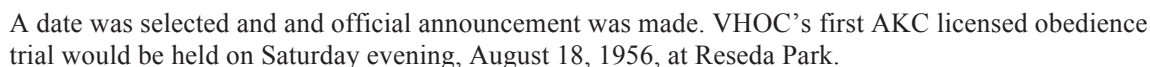
**1955 Obedience Match  
Open and Utility Winners**



In January, 1956, a new board was sworn in and, Bob Burd began a second term as President. VHOC's reputation spread, and a third class was added on Wednesday nights at Studio City Park.

On February 12, the club held its second sanctioned match, this time indoors, from noon to 7:00pm at Devonshire Downs. It repeated the success of the year before, and then two months later, news arrived

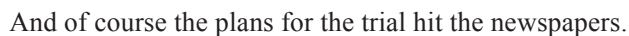
with a second reason to celebrate. The long-awaited approval arrived from the American Kennel Club, meaning VHOC could finally hold a formal obedience trial.



As preparation for the show went into full swing, VHOC took time to celebrate its third birthday, and in July, the club held its annual pot luck dinner at the Disabled American Veterans Hall, just south of Vanowen Street in Woodland Hills, where it still remains, almost six decades later.



Then the club announced a different kind of birthday...



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*



The trial committee encouraged all members to enter, even if their only event was the Title Parade. They were determined that this would to be the biggest, best trial ever.

And that is exactly what it was. With 396 entries, the trial had the highest attendance in U.S. history!

## Record 396 Dogs Entered in Club Show

Valley Hills Obedience Club members yesterday said they have received a record-breaking 396 entries for their dog obedience show at 6 p.m. Saturday in Reseda Park, Reseda and Victory Blvds.

The previous national record, said club spokesmen, was held by the Oakland Obedience Club with 308 dogs.

Entries have been received from all over the State and from Arizona in the competition for more than 100 trophies.



# *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

Row after row of trophies were on display waiting to be won.



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

Classes were split to accommodate the many entries, and additional judges had to be hired to cover all eleven rings. And to top it off, the trophies were presented by TV star, "Lassie"!

Some of the winners:



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*



HIGHEST SCORING DOG IN TRIAL


Charles and Mae Horne  
HUGO XV, U.D. 200  
Highest Scoring Dog

Mr. & Mrs. Sugi Morimoto  
REMA VON SCHRIF, U.D. 199.5  
Highest Scoring Bitch



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

The next issue of the Newsette was full of well-deserved brags..."396 entries...an all time record in the AKC books for an obedience trial," along with grateful appreciation for the support and enthusiasm of all the other clubs, and a big thank you to the public who came out to watch.



# Valley Hills Newsette

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A Monthly Publication of the Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 2 - Reseda, California

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Volume 3  
Number 8

August - 1956

Editor-Pat Murphy  
WEBster 5-6336

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**FROM THE HEAD TABLE**

Our first trial is over...what a magnificent page to add to our history book! 396 Entries... 305 dogs...an all time record in the AKC books for an Obedience Trial... 391 in the Trial, and five in tracking.

If we can attribute this overwhelming success to any one thing, I think it would be the night show idea, for which we can thank our Al Roderick. Everything seemed to snowball...from the first announcement of our "first blessed event," with the clever flyers, with the slate of judges, with the many visits to every class graduation and club meeting we knew of, and with our well kept mailing file, which all led to this huge entry.

The show itself was the smoothest I have seen, with Helene's skillful engineering, the enthusiastic preparation by each chairman, the wonderful cooperation of the Judges and Stewards to keep within the schedule and the fast windup by alert clerks and super Chief Steward in figuring all the Special Awards.

Enthusiasm carried to the end with 110 at the Judges' Midnight Supper to celebrate. Even the food did not seem to dampen any feelings.

We had tremendous support from you wonderful members which is really gratifying. It is your show and of all shows to support this was most important to you.

The support from other clubs was very gratifying. We had many, many friends who sold the show to their fellow members and class

graduates. George Hyde and I found great enthusiasm and anticipation for our show at the meetings we covered.

The trainers were great allies in selling the show. Practically all of the classes are held at night, and most dogs are worked at night, so this was a natural, and appreciated by all the instructors and trainers.

Throughout our entire campaign I felt a wonderful friendliness within the obedience people who were all out in their wishes for a huge success for Valley Hills.

This was to me, the best part of it all...it seemed to me that everyone I talked to was as enthusiastic about our show as we were ourselves. Everyone wanted us to hit the top.... and everyone knew we were out to hit the top for the sake of obedience and Southern California rather than just for ourselves.

One very important point we did make... obedience entries are not slipping downward.. this reminds me of a favorite poem I once read....

Sitting still and wishin'  
Makes no person great..  
The Good Lord sends the fishin'  
But we must dig the bait!

Thanks to all... see you the 31st at Rands...

Bob Burd, President

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Valley Hills next practice ring will be on Saturday, September 1st. Be sure and come out at 2:00 and train your dog for the many, many shows that are coming up in the fall and early winter.



## *The History of VHOC cont'd.*

In addition, President Burd wrote a more formal article, beginning with a brief history of the club, and then covering the trial itself, with a listing of first place winners of the classes, and of course, the highest scoring dog of the trial, with a perfect 200 points, Hugo XV, U.D., a Dachsund owned by Charles and Mae Horne.

### **VALLEY HILLS SETS NEW RECORD**

by Robert E. Burd, President

The Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc., one of the youngest clubs in California, set a new AKC record for Obedience Trials at their First Licensed Obedience Trial of August 18, 1956 at Reseda Park in Reseda, California.

The Valley Hills Obedience Club was born in 1953 with nine charter members. Now, three years later, it has grown to almost 200 active members, has put on a record OB Sanctioned Match, two OA Sanctioned Matches and a record Licensed Obedience Trial of 305 dogs, 391 entries.

Unique in the idea of Obedience Trials is the fact that all but one of the VHOC events have been Night Shows. The weather of the San Fernando Valley, of which Reseda is the heart, is especially suited for a night event which has proved so popular because of the balmy evenings, and the excellent lighting facilities of the Reseda Park Ball Diamond.

Efficiently managed by our trial Chairman Helene Burd and her hard working committee, the Trial was beautifully laid out (eleven rings and a practice ring) and very striking with gleaming white stakes and ropes. The committee had to be efficient, as we only had 5½ hours to complete the Trial. Trophies were offered to Tenth place in each of the three parts of Novice A, to eighth place in Novice B and Graduate Novice, and to 6th place in each group of Open A, Open B, and Utility, each of which were split into two groups.

The chance to show dogs at night drew entries from as far south as Escondido, Calif., as far east as Phoenix, Arizona, and as far north as San Francisco, Calif. Participating greatly in the trial were members of our club who entered 89 dogs and 27 entries.

The highest scoring dog of the trial was the Dachshund, Hugo XV, U.D., owned by Charles and Mae Horne, who scored a perfect 200.

Novice Class A—Part I, Judge Mr. Howard E. Cross, by Standard Poodle owned by Lester R. Galst of Phoenix, Arizona, score 197½. Novice Class —

Part II, Judge Mr. Roy Waer, by dobie owned by Barbara Reilly, score 198. Novice Class A—Part III, Judge, Mr. Samuel Gardner by Standard Poodle owned by Melissa Ellicott, score 198. Novice Class B, Judge Mr. D. A. Amundsen by Siberian Huskie owned by Mr. and Mrs. Buckley, score 199.

Graduate Novice Class, Judge Mr. John F. Campsie by Shetland Sheepdog owned by Dianne Bates, score 197. Open Class A—Part I, Judge Miss Zella Nicolas by Rough Collie owned by Virginia Ramsey, score 198½. Open Class A — Part II, Judge Mr. Paul Minor by Whippet owned by Dorothea and Don Frames, score 196. Open Class B—Part I, Judge Mr. Glenn Fancy by Toy Poodle owned by Cindy Lee James, score 199½. Open Class B—Part II, Judge Mrs. Edith Izant by Dobie owned by Cindy Lee James, score 199. Utility—Part I, Judge Mr. Herbert Wegner by German Shepherd owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sugi Morimoto, score 199½. Utility—Part II, Judge Mr. D. D. Brodie by Dachshund owned by Charles and Mae Horne, score 200.

In our Tracking Event held in conjunction with this Trial, three of the five dogs entered passed. They were the Weimaraner Von Gaiberg's Heidi U.D. owned by Helene G. Burd, Weimaraner, Regal Wunder aus Felsen U.D.T. owned by I. B. House, and a German Shepherd, Seigriede von Gerstinburg CDX owned by William F. Sturgeon. The Tracking Event was held the preceding Sunday, August 12, 1956 at North Hollywood Park.

— N-O-T-M —

### **SHELTIE TAKES FIRST AT LaPORTE KC TRIAL**

K. C. Pal O'Golden Beech Tree, sheltie, owned by Ethel Folman, scored 199 in Open B to take high-scoring-dog-in-trial at the LaPorte County Kennel Club combination, held on August 12th at Michigan City, Indiana.

Other class winners were as follows:

Novice A—Mrs. Edward Gons  
Gon's Randy (toy-man) .....196  
Novice B—Rose Minale  
Al-KahiraContessa(min-pood) 196.5  
Open A—William E. Poer  
Lusty Wind's Jet Liner (dach)....195  
Utility—Ethel Folman  
K. C. Pal (sheltie) .....198.5

This is only a brief history of VHOC's first years, but what triumphant years they were! And now, here we are in 2014, preparing for our 59th trial. To all those entered, as you go in the ring, good luck, and know that you're following in the footsteps of all those people and dogs who have done the same for more than half century. Now it's your turn to go make history!





# ON THE LINE

by BJ ANDREWS

**T**ired of hearing about Animal Rights? Yeah, me too but I'm intrigued by the back story that most hobby breeders and show people don't know.

Everyone pays lip service to "fighting animal rights" but not enough of us are willing to spend time doing it! Nah, we're too busy trying to figure out how to advertise our next litter without prompting a visit from Animal Control.<sup>1</sup> How did that happen? On the whole, show breeders are a pretty smart bunch of people. We research complex genetic combinations to find just the right outcross but do we use our organizational skills to protect our right to engage in a hobby or dog show business? Be honest. Say no.

Before you get your ruff up, admit it. Everyone agreed we "gotta do something about PETA and HSUS" but we didn't. We assumed someone else was dealing with those pesky animal right whackos. We fooled ourselves into believing it wouldn't affect us, never realizing that we were precisely who HSUS targeted from the git-go. Think back. Deliberately distracted by outrageously orchestrated PETA actions, we hardly noticed HSUS at a time when we might have stomped them like a cockroach.

We misjudged the real intent of the animal rights movement. Animal Rights was not to "save the animals"—it has always been a political agenda to control their owners.

Nearly 70% of American households own a dog or cat. That equates to over 200 million people who can be swayed as to which way they VOTE. As you go to the polls next month, carry voter I.D. in your wallet and this information in your mind...

## THE COST OF ANIMAL RIGHTS

Power-hungry animal rights strategists cleverly lead us to expend our feel-good energy fighting shadows. That keeps us from noticing that they, the animal rights activists, are gobbling up our Constitutional Rights.

Speaking of eating, HSUS targets any food-related enterprise that involves animals. The impact on the price of meat, eggs, and milk is incalculable. HSUS seizes livestock producers by the throat and chokes them into submission, not to help the animals but to increase their legislative impact on our food supply. For example, hitting below the belt, in fact, right in the gut—animal rights activists forced productive fields to go fallow in CA because of a 3" long fish that lived in the irrigation ditches. That single action forced over a thousand workers onto welfare—and caused produce prices to soar all the way to New York.

In August of 2014 the *LA Times* reported global food giant Nestle<sup>®</sup> Corporation "pledged broad new animal welfare standards for its worldwide suppliers." Animal rights groups celebrated the largest food company victory to date, bragging that all of Nestle suppliers would have to "provide more space for farm animals and phase out controversial practices such as dehorning cattle, castrating animals without painkillers and keeping egg-laying hens in cramped cages."

While we agree that livestock should be better treated, the cognizant understand that de-horning and castration is done to prevent serious injury from pasture fighting. Either procedure takes less than a minute and like tail-docking a puppy, the calf or goat squeals more at being restrained than from pain. The question here is; are you willing to pay the cost-per-pound increase if meat producers are forced to hire veterinarians to administer pain killers? What about the extra cost to hold each animal in the chute until the medication takes effect before performing the procedure?

"Animal Rights" laws have less to do with animals than with destroying our economy and political system. The goal is not to stop "torturing" food animals; it is to make them

so expensive that we all become vegans! Meat protein is what enabled humans to evolve intellectually, in fact, wolves and dogs helped man evolve.<sup>2</sup> So when you step back and look at the overall picture, including the Agenda 21 plan, animal rights is but one tool in a long term social project that requires the subjugation of society.<sup>3</sup>

Consider this. My friends in CA are so intimidated by the thought of animal control learning they exist that they're afraid to advertise puppies. Breeders studiously avoid the red flag term "puppies for sale." Most have a website that implies that there might be a puppy available for "adoption", thereby confusing a family that simply wants to buy a puppy. Dog breeders are shooting themselves in the foot by trying to protect their backsides. What an asinine picture of Animal Rights success!

Dog breeders, like meat and dairy producers, can't hide their business in the basement. Our neighbors know we have dogs and if they are animal lovers who flaunt their "goodness" by supporting animal rights, you slink around trying desperately not to stir them up. You're paranoid about zoning. Back when you bought that property, you were legal but then the politicians went to AR school and learned how to zone you out of the dog "business." You even fudge with your vet about how many bitches you have. Well, then you better think twice about microchipping because today that becomes a public record of how many dogs you have, age, sex, etc. APHIS loves it!

Paranoia in, privacy out. Oh! And what about the outrageous increase in breeder-related veterinary costs such as sperm or ovulation tests? Many younger vets are graduates of the school of animal rights<sup>4</sup> and it shows in computerized billings which support their beliefs. Another insidious cost of Animal Rights. ■

### REFERENCES:

- {1} thedogplace.org animal control legal defense
- {2} thedogplace.org Meat-eater Evolution
- {3} thedogpress.com Agenda 21 Animal Rights
- {4} thedogpress.com HSUS-VetWars



# HONORING PROFESSIONAL DOG BREEDERS

The high-heeled, pointy-toed shoe wearing, meeting attending animal activists have it all wrong, but they don't know it yet. They probably never will, because most of them are ignorant of what dog breeders really do. They don't understand that real breeders, with their scientific interest in genetics and health, are the people most interested in improving the health and vitality of the dogs we breed and dogs in general. The activists don't know enough about the dog-breeding system to know how wrong they have it, and they are doing a lot of damage in the process.

I just finished reading Dan Barber's book, *The Third Plate, Field Notes On The Future of Food* and his history of agriculture both long-term and short term. One of the main lessons he has learned in his quest to find better tasting food is that the work done for thousands of years by farmers paying attention to genetics in their plants need to be honored. I believe the same can be said about thousands of dog breeders who have produced tens of thousands of

dogs of various breeds. If we don't begin to honor them, their work will be lost through a well-intentioned but misguided quest to care for suffering animals. In fact, all the current system that supplies dogs to the public from unknown suppliers through a network of shelters and rescues will do is ensure that genetically healthy dogs produced by skilled tradespeople will become extinct as mass-produced dogs with thousands of genetically hidden problems continue to flood the market. If you read Dan's book, and I highly recommend it, think of the hundreds of thousands of mass-produced, always spayed and neutered dogs as the annual wheat varieties now being planted on our plains. These annual plants look nothing like the perennial grasses that grew for hundreds of years in concert with the other plant and animal life endemic to the Great Plains region. As Dan Barber illuminates, the annuals are diminishing the soil, and leading to a monumental failure of epic proportions. But they were all planted with good

intentions—to feed the millions of hungry people in the world. Then imagine the hundreds of well-bred purebreds as the perennial wheats. These breeds have been produced as a result of thousands of years of trial-and-error breeding practice. done by hundreds of different people with different dogs, all suited to perform functions that worked in concert with the people who bred them, and lived with them. These breeders all carefully worked toward improving the genetics of the animals they bred by learning from each successive litter, then applied their knowledge to future litters. These dog breeders are like the small, diversified farmers Michael Pollan and Dan Barber hold up as models for the future. These are the people who actually care about the whole product and understand the importance of genetics on succeeding generations.

The animal activists think breeders breed just for looks, and they are wrong. As I tell the people who buy my carefully bred dogs, sometimes we breed for



**JACQUELYN FOGEL**



## FOGEL

good things—like healthy livers, a non-shedding coat and stronger hips. Sometimes we in-breed to lock in a particularly desirable trait that we have identified through our repeat breedings as a polygenetic, recessive trait. And this leads to one of my biggest complaints about the people who fight against us now. They have absolutely no appreciation for the difficulty and the complexity of the work we do. They don't understand why line-breeding and sometimes even in-breeding is so important, any more than they understand why the perennial wheats are different from the annual varieties. They only know the misinformation they get about cross-breeding for "hybrid vigor". They don't know enough about the science to even realize that hybrid vigor only occurs when you cross two different species—and all dogs are canines, the same species. They also don't know that hybrid vigor doesn't work after the first generation and is unsustainable without returning to careful line and in-breeding. Mostly they are ignorant about the science every good dog breeder uses. Furthermore, if "hybrid vigor" was the answer to all health problems, then humans would be the healthiest creatures on the planet, and we know that certainly is not true.

A lot of misinformation passes for knowledge in this fast-paced "I Googled It", instant expert society. Just because a person owned a dog once does not mean they know anything about caring for multiple pets, and it certainly does not give them an ounce of insight into the life of a dog breeder. Just because a person loves dogs, does not mean they know anything about what it takes to breed and nurture and train them. And assuming that the people who breed their dogs somehow love them less is a complete fantasy

manufactured to demonize the people who care the most.

How many winter mornings have I gotten up early to shovel out my outside runs cursing the high-heeled pointy-toed meeting attendees who show up en masse to talk about what a bad person I am. Do they understand that I leave my runs open to the sun (and snow) because I know my dogs need the natural light to keep them healthy? Do they understand that if I covered the runs the sunlight would not be able to kill the bacteria and fungus that might sicken my dogs? Do they know how closely I monitor the genetics of my dogs so I can predict what I am likely to get in looks, health and temperament? How many times have I raced to a vet with a sick puppy, or held a dying dog in my arms, grateful that I was able to share my life with such a wonderful creature whose genetics deserved to be passed along to the next generation?

For years I have worked on my small line of bassets and bedlington terriers. I have always bred to improve, and along the way I have run into problems that I needed to solve with genetics. It's not always a straight path. Each generation builds on the one before it, and we learn from the offspring of every generation.

About 15 years ago I had a beautiful line of bassets, but they had a problem. They had trouble feeding their puppies after they were born because they had developed mastitis. They were wonderfully attentive, caring mothers, they just couldn't nurse their puppies. After 5 generations of nursing problems I finally had to admit to myself that my bitches were passing these traits along genetically to their daughters, and I chose to end that line of dogs because I wanted my dogs to be able to nurse the puppies

they carried. It was a difficult decision—the dogs that survived were beautiful, sound and had great temperaments. They just couldn't nurse their puppies. Did any of the owners of those puppies know or care that the mothers were insufficient? Of course not, because they never tried to breed them. What do we learn from never breeding a dog? Nothing. We don't learn where certain traits, good or bad, come from, and we certainly can never repeat our successes.

In a mass-produced, one-generation and out, spay and neuter everything world, we learn nothing about the animals' genetics, and we are creating what Dan Barber's farmers call an insult to history. Hundreds of thousands of dogs are produced, and we have absolutely no idea what genetic problems lurk below the cute puppy surface. Good breeders are the architects of the future, and we need to begin honoring them now, before all of their accumulated knowledge is lost.

Biodiversity is a good thing, and it comes from hundreds of small breeders working to improve the breeds they know. It does not come from allowing everyone to put together dogs of unknown and unknowable genetics. That's a recipe for continued failure, and lots of continuing health and temperament problems. Genetics count. I even joke with friends that if I had bred myself as carefully as I breed my dogs, I might not have dipped my toe into the genetic pool I did, and perhaps my children would not have had to deal with quite so many issues. But love is blind—and it certainly does not bow to genetics. Thankfully we don't have to worry so much about love in the world of plant and animal breeding. Ignorance of what we do and the value of our work is our biggest enemy.





## Obedience & Rally Matches

### 2nd Saturday of each month

Monthly obedience/rally matches held at Louise Park, Van Nuys, south-east corner of Louise Ave & Sherman Way, west of Balboa.

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### **RAFFLE**

**Is It Ever Too Late To Make A Donation?**

***NEVER!***

Traditionally speaking VHOC has one of the BEST raffles at trials in Southern CA. To maintain exhibitor draw to our trial raffle takes a lot of donations, so we collect for our raffle all year round. Several of our dedicated Committee members are generous enough and the space to dedicate to store items in their homes. They even been known to purchase items to donate.

The Raffle Committee members do their best to have something of interest in each basket and to have a volume of baskets so that folks purchasing raffle tickets feel they have a chance to win.

We can continue build a draw for raffle ticket sales thru the generosity of club members and the vendors we solicit for donations. We never turn down donations. Did you know that you can donate items as well as cash to our Trial Raffle. Raffle Committee members often purchase items to donate to the raffle. So yes cash is used for big ticket items such as crates, forced air dryers, portable dog wash tubs, high end training equipment i.e. jumps (agility/obedience) and high end interactive training toys and more!

We will accept any item that might be of interest and gift cards for anything exhibitors would want to win! So feel free to donate a Cruise, Starbuck gift card, fancy tug toy, we will accept it!

When does VHOC begin to collect donations for our next raffle? The day of our trial raffle, we begin collecting for the following event!

Thank you one-and-all for your past donations and future donations!

VHOC Raffle Committee

*Allison Pobirs, Carrie Racey, Christy Tattersal, Cindi Malchose, Jan Racey*

## *End With A Smile*



**My dog turned into Walter White**







# *Newslette*

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