

THE POODLE SCENE

SPECIAL FOCUS: PCC OWNER PERFORMANCE HANDLER INTERVIEWS

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Poodle Club of Canada: list of Officers and Committee Chairs

October 2013

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Second Vice-president/Deuxième Vice-présidente: Debra Drake

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Recording Secretary/Secrétaire d'archives: Margot Jorgensen

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Please note that all positions are volunteer! Thank you to those that give of their personal time to make keep this club running.

Members Advertising:

Full Page: \$10.00

1/2 Page: \$ 5.00

Business card \$2.00

Introducing your Provincial Directors 2013-14

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VICTORIA TOMBLIN, ALBERTA

My name is Tory Tomblin. I live in Calgary AB with my husband, 11 month old daughter and 3 poodles. My kennel name is Epique. I have shown two poodles to their championship completely owner groomed and handled. Self taught too. I enjoy showing and doing rally with my poodles. We are playing with herding and agility too. I would like to try a draft test with my boy. I am hoping to have my first litter in the spring. I have learned so much and have a lot more learning to come. I look forward to working with the Poodle Club of Canada membership. When I am not 'Poodleing' I work for Alberta Health Services EMS. My other loves are traveling and riding my Harley with my family. Now that we have a baby the bikers need a car escort to bring the baby and poodles on our trips!

Tory & Sookie



SYLVIA DODGSON, BRITISH COLUMBIA

I was introduced to Standard Poodles, and by extension to dog sports, when Jac Harbour, of Tudorose Standard Poodles offered me a Standard Poodle puppy to become my “next” Service Dog when my then current Service Dog retired. I could hardly believe my ears (which don’t work well at the best of times, but especially not in noisy pizza joints!)

Twelve years later, little Ms Blue Collar girl, aka Tudorose Kat of Braganza, is still the light of my life, and now easing her way into very active retirement. She has taught me all I know about dog sports while earning 13 titles across three kennel clubs and five dog sports along the way.

About two years ago Katrina welcomed a “new addition” to our family. Ms Brown Ruby, aka Tudorose Diamond in the Ruff, is a joy and a challenge to both of us.

I believe the lessons learned will stand me in good stead as I support the BC members of the Poodle Club of Canada work towards their goals with their poodle companions.

Please contact me if you have questions about the PCC, or ideas that you would like to share. I will do my best to get answers.

- Sylvia



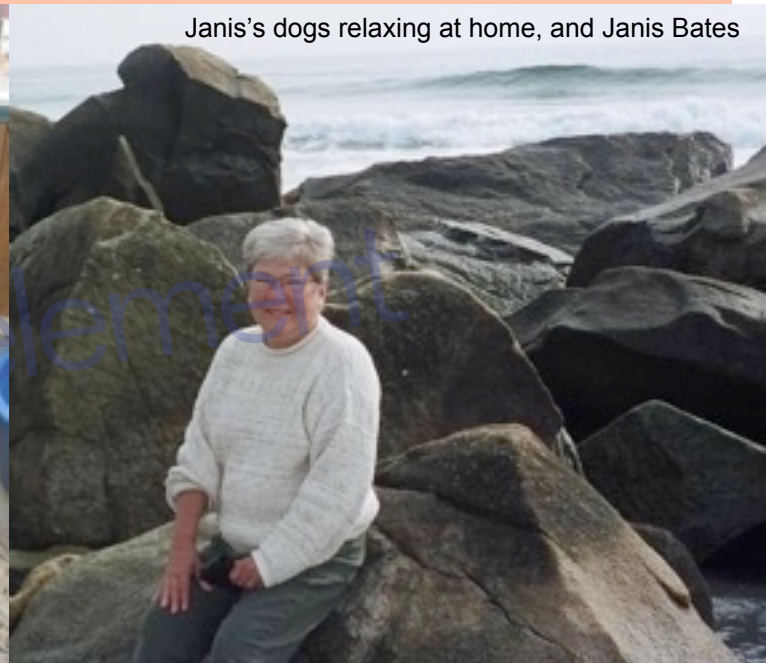
Sylvia & canine family

Introducing your Provincial Directors 2013-14

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JANIS MORRISON BATES, QUEBEC

I saw my first Standard Poodle in San Francisco when I was working there as a young nurse. I was totally smitten and have never wanted any other breed. I love their beauty, grace, intelligence and sense of humor. My first Poodles came from Jac Harbour who was and has been a wonderful mentor. My first Sandhill litter was born in 1992, there have now been 19 litters and 21 Sandhill champions. I have always tried to produce versatile dogs who are eager to please and easy to live with. My current pack consists of 4 girls of various shades of blue, grey and silver. Diva is 10 and will be trialing for her Utility degree this winter. Her daughter Chablis who is owned by myself and Cathie Newey, has just completed her GMOTCH degree. Diva's other daughter, Lexa, needs one more leg for her CDX. Diva's half sister, Gracie has her CD and CGN and does pet visitation at several long term care units and an Alzheimer day care. My baby, Ruby, is in Novice Obedience and keeping me on my toes. I wish I had been born many years later so that I could see the results of the new directions that PCC has embarked upon. Hopefully my Lexa and Ruby will be bred according to the new knowledge.



Janis's dogs relaxing at home, and Janis Bates

You may notice that **Jac Harbour's (Tudorose Standard Poodles) & Suzanne Loblaws' (Reigate Standard Poodles)** come up multiple times as mentors/influence/breeder in this issue of The Poodle Scene. Don't worry, I noticed too! I plan a Q & A with a number of long-time influential breeders and mentors for the Winter 2014 to let us know what inspires them and to share their wisdom! **Please share your mentor stories with us.**

- Editor c/o

lkglickman@videotron.ca


Condolences

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CONDOLENCES to the family of Joan Pelly (Peljo Standard Poodles).

Photo of her dog CH AleKai Ouzo circa 1980 Poodle Review Stud Issue.

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbook/DignityMemorial/guestbook.aspx?n=joan-pelly&pid=168095936>



Stud Fee on Request
Best in Show Winner,
Top Producer.
To approved bitches only.

Ch. Alekai Kila
Ch. Alekai Ahi
Ch. Davdon Captivation
Ch. Alekai Oli of Stonebridge
Ch. Alekai Ahi
Ch. Tamara of Stonebridge
Ch. Alekai Maunalua
CH. ALEKAI OUZO—White
Ch. Alekai Ahi
Ch. Alekai Luau
Ch. Alekai Pokoi
Ch. Alekai Zoe
Ch. Prince Philip of Belle Glen
Longleat White Witch
Ch. Alekai Hula

PELJO KENNELS — Joan Pelly
R.R. 8, Goreway Drive Brampton, Ontario
Tel.: 416-794-0291 Canada L6T 3Y7

Join us on FACEBOOK

PCC members join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/poodleclubofcanada/>

and if you live in Canada, are a CKC member and love poodles, please **JOIN** the club and support our breed!

NEWSLETTER: PLEASE SEND ME BRAGS, HUMOUR, PHOTOS OF YOUR AWESOME DOGS, RECIPES, ETC.

WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IN YOUR NEWSLETTER TO lklickman@videotron.ca

NEXT NEWSLETTER, **WINTER ISSUE 2014: FOCUS: Breeding & Breeders.** Q & A with long-time, influential Canadian Breeders. Deadline January 1 2014. Photos and stories about your dogs very welcome.

En Français aussi! Thanks! Merci!

Q & A with Handler Margot Jorgensen, owner of Standard Poodles Donovan “U-SHR, CKC Ch MOTCh Reigate’s Here Comes The Sun, TDX, UTD, WC, JH, AGX, AGXJ, CGN, AAC ATChC, MSCDC, Bronze Jumpers, Silver Standard, Silver Award of Merit” & Mitch “Reigate Beyond The Moon, CD, AGN, AGNJ, CGN, AAC ADC, SGDC”

Please describe to us what attracted you to dogs in general, and poodles as a breed?

I grew up in a “dog” family, always loved them. My first exposure to Standard Poodles was when I was about 19. I had been participating in a sports car road rally, and parked at the top of Burnaby Mountain near Vancouver, was a pale blue Cadillac convertible. Sitting proudly in the back seat, apparently admiring the view, were two beautifully groomed cream SPs. I swore then that one day I would have one too.



My husband and I moved from an apartment to a floating home, and finally could have a dog of our own. Our first was a GSD cross, and when he died at the age of 12, my vet found a Poodle breeder for me – Grethe Jensen, Hausted Kennels. Solo was a wonderful family dog. We attended beginners obedience, but failed the final night when he chose to run to my daughter rather than to me on the recall. Sadly we lost him totally unexpectedly to torsion aged 9.

Grethe was no longer breeding, but gave me some names. I was very lucky to meet Suzanne Loblaw of Reigate Standard Poodles, and it is from her kennel I have been blessed with some wonderful dogs, Banner, his half-sister Joy who was co-owned with Suzanne, both gone now, and

Joy’s son, Donovan, who is now 12, also co-owned with Suzanne as is Mitch, now 5.

How old were you when you started dog training? How many years have you been involved in your dog sports?

In 1994 (I was 49) we moved here to acreage in the Comox Valley, bringing two horses with us. For several years my life was taken up with trail riding and caring for the horses. A few years later I injured my neck jumping my horse and had to stop riding. A neighbour introduced me to the Forbidden Plateau Obedience and Tracking Club. Banner earned his CD and TD, then went off to take part in a movie, “Good Boy”. Once Joy had earned her Ch, she went on to CD, then had a litter of pups in 2001 before finishing her CDX. Once her pup Donovan came home, I focused on performance while Suzanne had him shown in conformation, earning his CH by 9 months.

For several years we trained obedience, tracking and hunt, often all in the same day, earning his TD and CD in 2003. Dono was not a natural swimmer, but we persevered. Once he’d earned his WC, JH and UKC SHR titles, we stopped trialling in 2007 because I could see that water blinds were not going to be possible unless I used an EC*. He had worked so willingly for me without, I chose not to try. At that point we began to focus more on obedience and tracking. Along the way, he earned his TD, TDX and UTD. I had not intended to do agility with Dono as he was so busy, but after paying for lessons and seeing a lack of interest in both Banner and Joy, I tried him out starting about 2004 – he loved it, and still does. He loved herding too, but finding training was difficult and expensive. We briefly tried carting, but again finding a trainer locally

was impossible, and I couldn't seem to convince him myself that trotting like a horse pulling a sulky was not required. We had a go at flyball, but I hated the barking. He is amazing at Scent Detection.

** Ed note - electric training collar*

How did you choose your current dog?

For many years my dogs have been Reigate ones. Suzanne is a very ethical breeder, working hard to produce dogs with good structure and health as well as being capable of doing any of the performance sports while still retaining grace and elegance of movement. In all his years of performance Dono has had only one injury, and that occurred due to poor placement of an agility jump in a trial causing him to step in a hole while turning and jumping. That was resolved quickly by one chiropractic procedure



Who are/were your mentors?

That's too hard to answer, I've had so many over the years in the various sports. Aside from personal friends and local and visiting trainers, I've really learned a lot from various people on the poodle lists on line and made many friends that way.

What kind of training methods do you use/recommend?

I try to be positive as much as possible, but not permissive. Mitch is a challenge for me as he is not as eager to please as Donovan, but saying that, he has taught me so much and learns new skills easily. I try different things, see what seems to

work for my dogs. I think my biggest challenge was learning to relax in the ring while staying focused. Our poodles are so sensitive to our body language.

What kind of training schedule to you follow?

I have to admit now to slowing down a little. I've just recently suffered a very painful arthritic flare-up which has interfered with agility and tracking. Luckily both boys are really enjoying Scent Detection once a week and I am working on CDX exercises with Mitch through the club. I do a little 10-15 minutes most days at home, and of course Dono gets to keep his paw in at the obedience too, or he'd be overwhelmed with jealousy. I used to track at least twice a week. I try to run each dog a couple of courses once a week at agility, but have limited the amount I do at home from 3 times a week, have not entered trials this fall. I do assist with obedience and agility classes, love doing that.



What do you find the most fun about training / trialing your dog?

I love teaching something new and seeing the lights go on. I also love it when they are confused and offer something, anything in the hope it's what I want. They are so smart.

What makes you proudest?

I have to be careful what I say to my friends with other breeds, because I know that the poodles are the best breed in the world, the cleverest, the nicest and the most beautiful.

Tell us about the most important experiences you've had with your dogs past and present.

The ones that come to mind are the times when as a group our club has put on demos for children who we've shown what to do, then allowed to work our dogs. Other heartwarming occasions are visits to seniors' facilities. I think the most amazing for me was the day my old Banner, such a mild mannered fellow, caught and killed a pesky and very large rat in the haybarn, then laid it out for my inspection ! Another thing that amazes me about the poodles is their intelligence and sometime manipulative behaviour – for instance one will bark at the door sucking another for backup, the first then rushing over to snatch the newly abandoned toy he was jealously watching the other enjoy.

What are your goals for the future with your current dog (s)?

For Donovan my goal is to keep him as healthy and active as possible in his senior years. For Mitch I'd like to continue to work at finding a sport which gives him as much joy as retrieving his kong does !

Any advice for novice trainers out there?

I think the most important thing to remember is to have patience, and always make training as much fun as you can. If things are not going well, don't let your frustration show, put your dog away for a bit till you've rethought how you are approaching an exercise or problem. When you are heeling along and glance at your dog and you smile at each other, your heart melts.

Any books you'd like to recommend?

There are so many good ones, and I haven't bought any in a while. Some classics I've enjoyed in no particular order are:

Shaping Success by Susan Garrett

The Art of Proofing by Adele Yunk

Dogs are Problem Solvers, Handlers Should Be by Connie Cleveland

Competition Obedience, A Balancing Act by Judy Byron and Adele Yunk

A huge thank you to Margot for taking the time to thoughtfully answer these questions, and to Margot's daughter for the beautiful photos of Donovan (cropped by me so I could fit more in). Here is a link the blog post by one of Margot's trainers, that inspired this article

<http://fpotc.blogspot.ca/2013/10/donovan-extraordinary-dog.html> - Editor



Q & A with Debby Dacosta, owner of & The Poodle Farm Canine Sport Facility & Equipment Supply & 5 dogs, of which 4 are Miniature Poodles: Ch Lemuria's Kallysta Wanna B Yu, CDX, CGN, RX, CRMCH, CRB, CRS, CRG, CSVCH, AGX, AGNJ, AGIJ, ADC, SGDC, AADC, AGDC, MADC, MGDC, MSDC, MJDC, ATChC, MSCDC, Bronze, ExSt Bronze HTM Bronze Bar, W-FD/MF, W-FDX/MF, W- FDM/MF, PCC Versatility Award, USDAA Tournament Master Bronze, Starters Jumpers, Tournament Master ,Ch. Palman Mystic Phantom du Opera — "P2" - CDX, RX, AGIJ, AGI, CRN, CRA, CRX, CRAT, CRXT, CRVX, CRB, CRS, CRNT, CRAT, CRXT, ADC, SGDC, MSCDC W-FD/MF, USDAA Starters Gambles, Ch. Palman's Krystal Blue Angel, CRN, CRA, CRNT, CRAT and Cherish her Standard Poodle who just crossed the rainbow bridge November 3rd 2013

Please describe to us what attracted you to dogs in general, and poodles as a breed?

I have always been attracted to dogs, even as a child the world seemed to stop when I saw a dog, apparently my focus was solely on the dog. We always had a farm dog, but there was just something about a toy poodle that intrigued me. My mother finally gave in and I got my first toy poodle, love at first sight. Down the road once my life settled after school was complete the attraction again became strong.....I did look at different breeds and I actually considered a Maltese or Bichon Frise. Each time I looked at a litter of puppies it became clear that I needed to be looking for a poodle, I admired the intelligence and versatility a poodle could offer, plain and simple my heart was with a poodle. The heart knows best so that was the beginning of many more poodles to come and a heart and soul that was fulfilled. I can't imagine life without a poodle or two, three, four, five yes even six!

How old were you when you started dog training? How many years have you been involved in your dog sports?

I got started with dog training when I rescued a poodle that came with many behavioural issues. I researched dog trainers and found John Menzies of Don't Blame Em Trainem. The name said it all, I signed up for classes and eventually become one of his instructors lasting for the good part of 18 years. It is amazing what you can learn when you get a dog that has issues! I am thankful for having that opportunity to learn. I then sought out a competition dog, the first 9 years was dedicated to obedience, I really had no idea there was so many dog sport opportunities. Then one day we were introduced to agility, within a month I started building equipment and basically became obsessed! Little Brittany my toy poodle was my obedience "Velcro" dog when I began training for agility I practically had to go thru the tunnels and over the jumps with her. I had no idea about handling, my thoughts were run as fast as you can do the obstacle then move onto the next. Looking back, wow was I wrong! At the time it worked, we could run at about the same speed. That was the

beginning to a much larger involvement in dog sports. I am now involved in Rally, Obedience, Agility, Freestyle, Rally Free, Field, Carting, and I have dabbled in flyball. For the love of the dog and the sport I went in search of a property to support my addiction. Of course this search was totally independent as my partner's words were always....."I don't want to move". After many house tours alone I finally convinced Alan to come with me to see a few houses. After many disappointments we finally had an opportunity to see a place that I had requested to see but our real estate broker kept avoiding, we pulled into the driveway got out of the car and he asked do you want to see the house or the barn first. I instantly said the barn of course. We walked into the barn, I had a smile ear to ear and the first words out of my mouth were I hope the house is livable! Alan

and I continue to be pleased with our decision to move to what we now call "The Poodle Farm" Canine Sport Facility and Equipment Supply.

How did you choose your current dog? I have three miniature poodles that I am currently competing with, the remaining poodle crew are retired and enjoy their time with Papa Al on the farm. When I choose a dog I am looking for a stable temperament with good structure. There are no perfect dogs, I am looking for balance



P2 doing Agility

with awareness of my needs for performance in the dog sports I most often compete in. Picking the right puppy is very important, our personalities have to match, I am looking for a dog that has drive, is food and toy motivated that is not overly sensitive. I like to see the litter from the day they are born till the 7th week when I make my decision and take them home. I have never regretted the puppies I have chosen, I had a good understanding of what I was getting and I am very aware of what I needed to concentrate on with training to bring out the best in the dog.

Who are/were your mentors?

I have had a few exceptional mentors throughout the years and most were specific to the type of dog sport. John Menzies was my first mentor and gave me a great education with regards to basic and competitive obedience providing education with respect to temperament and structure. When I ventured into the agility world I was fortunate to find Susan Garrett who offered a positive but not permissive approach to training. Currently my mentor in agility is Theresa Rector who has offered a well rounded, current state of the art approach to agility. I am very fortunate to have her as a mentor and thank her for all she has done. She has definitely contributed to the success of my dream of becoming a member of the agility world team. With freestyle my mentor was Cassandra Hartman, she is a positive trainer that is extremely talented in both dog training and dance!

What kind of training methods do you use/recommend?

I use positive reinforcement training methods that focus on consistent, clear communication using games and reinforcement to create a dog that wants to work/play with me. I have an avoidance to luring as I want a thinking dog that wants to do rather than a dog that follows and can't think or problem solve on their own. The result is an enthusiastic dog with great focus that is fun to work/play with. I have taken an approach to teaching behaviours broken down into small increments, keeping the training sessions fun and short, less is more! I enjoy working with platforms to teach many behaviours and am thrilled to have found Silvia Trkman and her methods to teach heeling as a trick using a perch. I have proven heeling can be as fun as any other trick!

What kind of training schedule to you follow?

I set training goals, rather than a training schedule. My list is large with so many different dog sports, however the timing is based on the puppy/dogs ability to absorb what is being taught. I teach many things at one time always keeping the dogs mind active and fresh to learn. Each session is typically no more than 10 or twenty treats at a time. I don't time my sessions I simply take so many treats, plan what I want to accomplish then get the dog and have some fun. Since I have three dogs I am actively training in various dog sports I simply rotate through each of the dogs one by one and in no particular order as I always want them to think they might be next! The joy in their eyes is evident when I call their name letting them know it is now their time to play/train. I will sometimes take everyone out at once and do a group training session, it is fun to watch them blast into a behaviour to be the first and sometimes only one to be rewarded. It tickles me pink to see them push each other out of the way to get close to me when practicing heeling as a group as I have only one left and one right side therefore one dog will be heeling beside the other dog while everyone wants to be close to me.



Deb and Cherish doing Field work

What do you find the most fun about training / trialing your dog? In my earlier years it was all about the trialing. Now it is all about the training and enjoying the journey with my dogs, watching them develop physically and mentally. I enjoy training the pieces using games and when it is time to put the pieces together nothing makes me happier to see them enjoy our time together no matter what dog sport we are doing.

What makes you proudest?

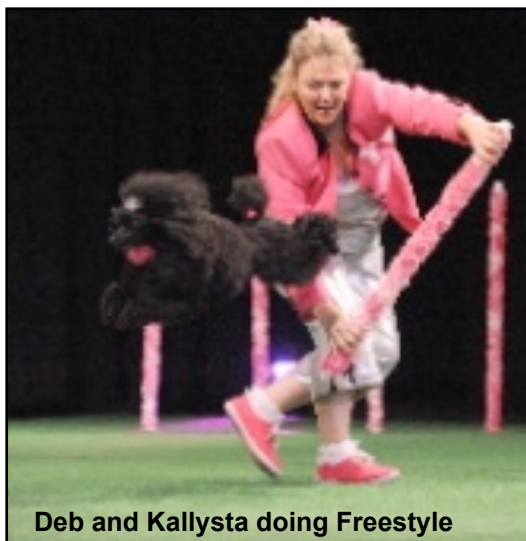
I am proudest when I am able to compete, train or do demonstrations with my dogs that show the bond and relationship I have with my dogs.

Tell us about the most important experiences you've had with your dogs past and present.

The first thing that comes to mind is a recent agility run with P2. Now that run to anyone else was probably just another run, but to me it was everything and just one of those heartfelt special experiences you treasure. I was at Cynosport USDAA Agility Competition this past October, we had a great week considering she hasn't attended many events of this size or calibre. It was our last class of the event, of course I was in two rings at the same time at opposite ends of the facility. We were instructed the main ring took precedence, so change of plans: P2 first. We headed to the ringside, there were a lot of barking dogs and very little room to warm up; a few close calls of tugging dogs almost taking us off our feet as they weren't focused on where they were going. P2 was somewhat distracted, we went into the ring setup and waited for the dog ahead of us to finish. I gave P2 a kiss asked her to wait and lead out - noticing she looked just a wee bit nervous of the dogs barking and tugging behind her not more than 10 feet from where she was set up. I said "Good Girl" with confidence; the buzzer said "Go", I released her and off she went, the speed was incredible, the focus on her job spectacular, the connection between us priceless! I trusted her ability to execute what we have trained, she did what was asked and did it well. I held up my end and gave her the information she needed when she needed it, pure poetry in motion. It felt good and when I watched it later I knew that was the first really special moment together of many more to come. We were totally connected every second of the course, both of us giving it are all, it was such a rush of adrenaline even now a month later it still excites me when I watch. To many just a run, to me it was everything we worked for coming together.

What are your goals for the future with your current dog(s)?

My current goal is to prepare P2 and I for the IFCS World Agility Competition in the Netherlands in May 2014. We are extremely proud to have been invited on the team and we will do our best to represent Canada.



Deb and Kallysta doing Freestyle

Any advice for novice trainers out there?

Find a good mentor! Teach by breaking your behaviours down into smaller behaviours. Be mindful of your timing, rate of reinforcement and your criteria. Take ownership don't blame the dog, they are merely a reflection of our own abilities. Most of all have fun and enjoy the journey!

Any books you'd like to recommend?

I am not fond of books for training purposes, words limit the knowledge one can obtain. I would however like to recommend a few videos! Silvia Trkman has many great videos, one of my favourite videos is "Heeling is Just Another Trick" This video demonstrates how to teach heeling so it is fun for both you and the dog while demonstrating precision. She

has many great videos to build a better relationship with your dog, teach agility skills, foundation training as well as tricks which include precise heeling.

A huge thank you to Deb for taking the time to thoughtfully answer these questions. - Editor

Q & A with Melissa Blazak, owner & handler of Rudy “ UKC-CH, URO3, UMJCH, UCA Karbits TNT Rudolph Valentino CDI, JH, RAE, Amer. CD, Dock Dogs Big Air-MJ, TT, CKC WC, PCA WC, HIC, CGN”

Please describe to us what attracted you to dogs in general, and poodles as a breed?

I have always loved animals. Dogs seem to be the perfect companion...pack/family oriented, unconditional love and affection, and a great way meet new people and explore new frontiers. Poodles fit the bill because I am also allergic, really don't like having hairballs rolling through the house.....and they are intelligent, very intuitive and are retrievers.

How old were you when you started dog training? How many years have you been involved in your dog sports ?

I got my first dog, a standard poodle from Sanvar Kennels, about 22 years ago when I first started working full time. We took obedience classes at Hamilton Dog Obedience Club and Dealing With Dogs, but never competed. Max was mainly a great family pet, a wonderful walking and hiking buddy, and an unofficial therapy dog at my grandmothers nursing home. With my current dog, Rudy, I have been involved in training and classes since I first got him at 11 weeks old. We keep finding new things to try. We have only been competing for a little over 2 years. Our debut in the obedience ring was at PCA 2011! After bombing out in the hunt weekend (I knew we weren't ready but wanted to support the club) we came out with a very respectable 195.5 score in Novice A. That's when I knew he could really be an excellent performance dog.

How did you choose your current dog?

I didn't actually. The Internet is a wonderful thing. I had joined a few Poodle focused Yahoo groups and started following some of the people. Really liked the European kleinpudel size and was even seriously thinking about importing a male and looking for a co-ownership. Then I started hearing good things about Karin Benker and Karbit Poodles and her imported dogs. Several were in performance homes and it sounded like they had the combination of drive and size that I wanted because I now had the time to devote to dogsports and I intended to compete. Jac Harbour was temperament testing all her litters and Helen King was doing evaluations at the same time and recommending them to many agility people. I never met Rudy's parents, but Karin was very good at answering all of my questions and Jac and Helen had met the parents. I put my trust in all of them. So I sent a long email about what I was looking for in a dog....and the rest is history! I waited over 2 years for Rudy (he was from a litter of 11, 8 boys and 3 girls) and I have never been happier. He is the best online purchase I ever made! I have never regretted putting my trust in those 3 ladies. It's like Rudy was made to order for me. Everybody should be so lucky.

Who are/were your mentors?

I would definitely have to say Jac Harbour. It is incredible what she has done with her family of dogs. It is too bad she actually had to move to Oregon before I got involved in dog sports. She used to live in Ancaster and I met her for the first time in the fall of 2012. How funny is that! It's a long distance relationship but she is always there to answer any questions and provide advice. Helen King has also been instrumental in helping to encourage me in my training. As I have said before, this is all new to me. I have often been nervous and unsure both in training and trailing, afraid of making mistakes with Rudy, and my mechanics are not the greatest.

What kind of training methods do you use/recommend?

I don't subscribe to one particular method.....but it must all be compulsion free. No "Force Fetch" in obedience or hunt training and no prong collars, etc. When I first audited a Puppy Seminar at Susan Garrett's about 6-7 years ago, I was amazed at what you could accomplish with shaping and reward based training. I was then determined that my next dog would be trained that way. These ideas were all over the

Internet but I had never seen them put to work in person. I have been learning at the same time that Rudy has been....but he learns faster! Susan Garrett's Recallers course, Michael Ellis' DVDs on training with food and markers, and Denise Fenzi's new online Dog Sports Academy are all great resources. However, for someone new to the game like me, it pays to go to classes or be able to get together with people who train similarly to you so that you have feedback and someone to critique your mechanics....which is my biggest weakness! Thankfully Rudy is a very forgiving dog and he makes me look good.

What kind of training schedule to you follow?

I take classes about 2 times a week and try to do at least one session a day at home in a room I have revamped in my basement as a dog training room. I am bad at scheduling and should be more consistent and get a whiteboard so I can map out training plans for the week.

What do you find the most fun about training / trialing your dog?

Rudy's temperament and drive are just awesome. He is such an outgoing, willing boy and will work well for either food or toys or praise. He makes training fun because he is always up and tries hard and wants to work...it is all play for him. Which is great because the best phrase in Susan Garrett's program is Work = Play = Work. It shouldn't be work for your dog....they should want to do it, to interact with you, to play with you. Rudy is always READY....but he has a really nice off switch in the house. He is clear-headed but fairly high drive.

What makes you proudest?

My proudest moment so far was when he finished his Junior Hunter title this September. Everything is a learning experience for me....but training fieldwork is a whole new world. Try training it using only motivational techniques and it is even harder. There is lots of help if you want to train agility or obedience, but where do you go if you want to do field training without a force fetch or an e-collar? I know Rudy can do it, but it has been a 2 step forwards 1 step backwards story. So I am very proud of him.

Tell us about the most important experiences you've had with your dogs past and present.

With Max, I was trying to prove that getting a dog was a good thing for the family so I used techniques that were available at the time. I was a bit of a drill sergeant and used a prong and collar corrections. He was such a wonderful, loving and soft boy that I regret a lot of the training I did with him in his early years. I also ruined him for water and did all the wrong things in introducing him to swimming. Which is why he hated the water. I am much more relaxed in training Rudy and have learned a lot through the years. I have much more patience and know that it will all come together eventually. I let him discover water on his own and he is an awesome dock jumper and swimmer. His personal best dock jump is 24 feet 2 inches!

What are your goals for the future with your current dog (s)?

I would like to get an OTCH, a WCI, a WCX and a Senior Hunter on Rudy. Eventually try agility, weight pull, and tracking. We are working in nosework now and I would love to see UKC nosework also come to Canada. As long as he is healthy and having fun I plan to train and trial him into old age.

Any advice for novice trainers out there?

Foundation. Foundation. Foundation. Do not neglect foundation training! Do a little shaping, play games, play with toys. Build the retrieve....it will be used for many things. Expose your dog early to water and make it a positive experience. The one thing with poodles that is both a plus and minus is the hair. If you are protecting the hair, then maybe the dog isn't getting the interaction and free running that they need to develop. Let them get dirty and be a dog. Play with toys early and often. You will not ruin your future show dog if you do a little obedience with them and do some retrieving. I have seen poodles who look like they don't know what a toy is or how to retrieve. They are retrievers, or they should be.

Any books you'd like to recommend?

I don't have any particular books I would like to recommend, but there is a great selection on <http://www.dogwise.com>

For agility, and some excellent toys and books on motivational training <http://www.cleanrun.com>

Denise Fenzi's new sports academy is great. E-training <http://www.fenzidogsportsacademy.com/>

Michael Ellis' DVDs on **The Power of Training Dogs With Food & The Power of Training Dogs with Markers** are excellent. You can find them on <http://www.leerburg.com>

I also recommend the Susan Garrett **Recallers E-Course**. It will give you a whole bunch of little games to build your relationship with your dog. Excellent illustration of mechanics of dog training using both food and toys. Teach your dog that YOU are the cookie (you are the BEST reward!) <http://www.susangarrett.com> This is probably one of the best for foundation training.

Please add anything you think I missed that you'd like to add! I have made many mistakes with Rudy and would love to go back in time and redo a few things....but we are enjoying the journey, together. He has the temperament, structure and determination to compete at a high level were he with someone a lot more experienced than I. Rudy is probably one of those "once in a lifetime dogs" that you occasionally read about. I am truly blessed to have him. It's been a pleasure answering these questions. Thanks for thinking of me!

A huge thank you to Melissa for taking the time to thoughtfully answer these questions. -Editor



Photos of "UKC-CH, URO3, UMJCH, UCA Karbits TNT Rudolph Valentino CDI, JH, RAE, Amer. CD, Dock Dogs Big Air-MJ, TT, CKC WC, PCA WC, HIC, CGN" above taken at York Retriever Club hunt test where Rudy completed his Junior Hunter title; right by John Carelli at PCA 2012.



Q & A with Vivienne Swarbreck, owner & handler of Troy "Can CH UCH UCD URO1 SHR Bibelot Tolka VIP of Vibrant CDX JH WCI RE CGC AKC CD, RN PCA WC, WCX HIC St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dog"

Please describe to us what attracted you to dogs in general, and poodles as a breed?

I grew up with shelties and labs, but married a man with allergies to dogs. I ended up choosing poodles because a friend had a toy poodle which I loved and I've never regretted my choice!

How old were you when you started dog training? How many years have you been involved in your dog sports?

I put my first CD on a dog 22 years ago, but really became passionate about obedience 10 years ago. I caught the field training bug in 2005.

How did you choose your current dog?

My dogs are first and foremost my family companions. I look at the pedigree, structure and health testing of the parents as I feel it is essential to start with a puppy of sound body and mind. Once I was satisfied that they were properly conformed, I had both my current dogs temperament tested and looked for a happy, confident, people oriented puppy. It was important to me that they showed no fear or sound sensitivity, and a natural retrieve and toy, food and prey drive certainly helped me make my choice. I have been very pleased with the decision I made.

Who are/were your mentors?

Cheryl Ingwersen instilled in me my enthusiasm for both obedience and field work. I have been fortunate to have trained with obedience instructors Marie Sawford, Deb Desjardines and now Bev Owocki.

What kind of training methods do you use/recommend?

I use positive reinforcement, with gentle corrections if necessary.

What kind of training schedule do you follow?

For obedience, I have one lesson a week and try to train at least two or three other days during the week for about fifteen minutes. If I'm training a new concept I will train it daily for no more than ten minutes. I prefer to keep my training sessions short and fun for the dog. When training field, I have a weekly lesson and try to get out with friends to throw each other marks at least twice during that week. We are on a hiatus from herding, but when we were training it was only a once weekly lesson.

What do you find the most fun about training / trialing your dog?

I love the bond that forms between my dogs and me. It warms my heart when I see how hard they try to please me, and it amazes me to see them learn what I am teaching them. I have also made many wonderful friends through my dogs.

What makes you proudest?

I never thought I would ever enjoy field work. I'm pretty proud of myself that I stepped into an area very foreign to me and have had success at it. The most excited I've been about a new title was Troy's WC, which was the first field title I've put on a dog. I really felt I'd gotten over a hurdle!

Tell us about the most important experiences you've had with your dogs past and present.

What comes to mind is the sense of adventure I feel when I take my dogs to shows such as PCA. Finally putting all the training we've done to the test is exciting, and whether we pass or not I get a feeling of accomplishment.

What are your goals for the future with your current dog(s)?

Cheers is working on her OTCHX, and I'd like to try tracking with her. Troy will be trialing in Utility soon, and will go on for his OTCHX and MOTCH (then GMOTCH?...we can dream!). I would like to get his WCX and SH, and I'd also like to do tracking with him. Both dogs will continue as Therapy Dogs.

Any advice for novice trainers out there?

Have fun and keep your training fun for the dog. You both will learn better if you're enjoying what you're doing!

Any books you'd like to recommend?

I have Marie Sawford's 'Ring Ready' books at hand at all times.

A huge thank you to Vivienne for taking the time to thoughtfully answer these questions. -Editor



Vivienne and Troy in the Rally ring. Troy's photo also appears in the hunting poodle article on page 22.

**This article has been extensively revised and updated - 2013 Canine Sports Productions -
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Those of us with responsibility for the health of canine athletes need to continually read and evaluate new scientific studies to ensure that we are taking the most appropriate care of our performance dogs. This article reviews scientific evidence that, taken together, suggests that veterinarians and owners working with canine athletes should revisit the current standard protocol in which all dogs that are not intended for breeding are spayed and neutered at or before 6 months of age. The results of a number of publications are briefly summarized in the areas of orthopedics, cancer, behavior, and other health considerations.

Orthopedic Considerations

- *Bitches spayed at 7 weeks had significantly delayed closure of growth plates as compared to those spayed at 7 months, and those spayed at 7 months had significantly delayed closure of growth plates as compared to those left intact.(1) In a study of 1444 Golden Retrievers, bitches and dogs spayed or neutered at less than a year of age were significantly taller than those spayed or neutered after a year of age.(2)*
- *In a study of 203 agility dogs, the author demonstrated that the tibia and radius and ulna were significantly longer than the femur and humerus, respectively, in dogs that were spayed or neutered at or prior to 8 months of age as compared to intact dogs.(M.C. Zink, unpublished data)*
- *Several studies have shown that spayed and neutered dogs have a significantly higher prevalence of CCL rupture (3–6), even when controlling for body size.(3)*
- *Dogs that were neutered at least 6 months prior to a diagnosis of hip dysplasia were 1.5 times more likely to develop hip dysplasia than sexually intact dogs.(7)*
- *Spayed/neutered dogs had 3.1 times higher incidence of patellar luxation.(8)*

Discussion: Dogs that have been spayed or neutered at or before puberty can often be identified by their longer limbs, lighter bone structure, narrower chests and narrower skulls than intact dogs of the same breed. This differential growth frequently results in significant alterations in body proportions and particularly the lengths (and therefore weights) of certain bones relative to others. For example, if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at 8 months, prior to a dog being spayed or neutered, but the tibia (which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age) continues to elongate for several months after that point because of the removal of the sex hormones, then the relationship between the femur and tibia will be different than what was genetically determined. This may result in an abnormal angle at the stifle and a longer (and therefore heavier) tibia placing increased stress on the cranial cruciate ligament (of the knee or stifle joint). It is well known that spayed and neutered dogs are more likely to be overweight or obese than sexually intact dogs (9), and this can be a contributing factor to orthopedic diseases. Thus, keeping the spayed/neutered canine athlete lean can help mitigate the increased risk of orthopedic conditions.

Cancer Considerations

- *Spayed females had more than 5 times greater risk than intact bitches of developing cardiac hemangiosarcoma and neutered males had 1.6 times higher risk than intact males had of developing cardiac hemangiosarcoma.(10)*
- *Spayed females had 2.2 times increased risk for developing splenic hemangiosarcoma.(11)*
- *Male and female Rottweilers that were neutered or spayed before a year of age had 3.8 and 3.1 times greater risk, respectively, of developing bone cancer than intact dogs.(12) In a second study, spayed/neutered dogs had a 2.2 times higher risk of developing bone cancer than intact dogs.(13)*
- *Neutered dogs had a 2.8 times greater risk for developing any prostate tumor than intact dogs.(14) Neutered dogs had a 4.3 times higher risk of developing prostate carcinoma.(15, 16)*
- *Neutered dogs had a 3.6 higher risk for developing transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder than intact dogs, and a 3 times greater risk of developing any bladder tumor.(14) Spayed/neutered dogs had more than 4 times greater risk for developing transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder than intact dogs.(17)*
- *In a survey of 2505 Vizslas, spayed or neutered dogs were found to have a significantly higher risk of mast cell cancer, hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma and all cancers together than intact dogs.(18)*

Discussion: One study indicated a slightly increased risk of mammary cancer in female dogs after one heat cycle (8% increase), greater risk with two heats (26% increase) and increased risk with each subsequent heat.(19) However, a recent systematic review of the publications that advocate neutering to reduce the risk of mammary tumors in dogs indicated that 9 of 13 reports had a high risk of bias and the remaining 4 had a moderate risk of bias. This study concluded that the evidence that neutering reduces the risk of mammary cancer is weak and do not constitute a sound basis for firm recommendations.(20) Additionally, at the time when several of these studies were conducted (late 1960s), it was found that incidence rates for all malignant neoplasms were 453.4/100,000 female dogs. Mammary tumors accounted for half of these tumors, or 198.8/100,000. Thus, the actual overall risk at that time of any bitch getting a mammary tumor was only 0.2%.(21) In any case, the figures for increased risk of mammary cancer must be compared with the 200 to 400% increased risk of other cancers in spayed females. While about 30% of mammary cancers are malignant (22), as in humans, when caught and surgically removed early, the prognosis is very good. (23) This is in comparison to the other cancers listed, such as hemangiosarcoma and bladder cancer, which are often fatal. Given the balance of cancer risks listed above, owners of canine athletes should strongly consider leaving the ovaries intact for at least two heat cycles. In addition, the veterinary field should be developing programs for regular examinations including imaging to facilitate early diagnosis of mammary cancer in all intact female dogs, as has been performed in women for decades.

Behavior Considerations

- *Early age gonadectomy was associated with an increased incidence of noise phobias and undesirable sexual behaviors, such as mounting.(24)*
- *Significantly more behavioral problems in spayed and neutered bitches and dogs, with fearful behavior being most common in spayed bitches and aggression in neutered dogs.(25, 26)*
- *In a prospective study, German Shepherd Dogs spayed between 5-10 months of age had significantly increased reactivity.(27)*

Discussion: A number of the early studies claiming to show positive behavioral effects of spay/neuter were significantly flawed. For example, one of the most often quoted publications to support improvements in behavior, particularly aggression, after gonadectomy does not actually provide any statistical analysis. Additionally, 88% of owners of dogs in this study stated that their reason for castrating the dog was to attempt to resolve an existing behavior problem. Owners were also surveyed regarding the dog's behavior a mean of 27 months post-castration. These factors likely introduced a significant amount of bias.(28) Another performed statistical analysis but showed that the age when the dog was neutered was not correlated with the degree of improvement.(29) Most critically, neither of these two studies included a control group of intact dogs. One of the more important undesirable behavioral effects of spay/neuter for canine athletes was a finding of a significantly lowered energy level. This was shown in a study that was well controlled and examined over 3500 dogs.(26)

Other Health Considerations

- *Female, and sometimes male, dogs that are spayed/neutered before puberty have an increased risk of urinary incontinence and it is more severe in bitches spayed earlier.(30-33)*
- *Spayed female dogs displayed a significantly higher risk of hypothyroidism when compared to intact females.(34) A health survey of several thousand Golden Retrievers showed that spayed or neutered dogs were more likely to develop hypothyroidism.(2) Neutered male and spayed female dogs had higher relative risks of developing hypothyroidism than intact females.(35)*
- *Neutered females had a 22 times increased risk of developing fatal acute pancreatitis (multivariate analysis) as compared to intact females.(36)*
- *Risk of adverse reactions to vaccines is 27 to 38% greater in neutered dogs as compared to intact.(37) • In a study of female Rottweilers there was a strong positive association between retention of the ovaries and longevity.(38)*

Summary

I have gathered these studies to show that the practice of routinely spaying or neutering every dog at or before the age of 6 months is not a black-and-white issue. Clearly more studies need to be undertaken to evaluate the effects of prepubertal spaying and neutering, particularly in canine athletes. After examining the risks and benefits, I have significant concerns with removal of the gonads in both males and females. It is clear that the gonads are not just important for reproduction, but play a critical role in growth, development and long-term health.

Preventing Procreation

If we leave the gonads intact, how can we prevent the production of unwanted dogs? For males, the obvious solution is to keep them away from bitches in heat. But if an owner needs more certainty that a dog will not be bred, the answer is to perform a vasectomy. One possible disadvantage is that vasectomy does not prevent some unwanted behaviors associated with males such as marking and humping. On the other hand, females and neutered males frequently participate in these behaviors too. Training is the most effective solution to these behaviors. Another potential issue is finding a veterinarian who can perform the procedure. Veterinary schools do not currently teach students how to perform vasectomies. However, the methodology has been described

and any board-certified surgeon can learn the technique. For a list of veterinarians who will perform the technique, contact the author at mczink@caninesports.com.

In females, the issues are more complex, because having a bitch in heat is inconvenient and leaving the uterus intact substantially increases the risk of pyometra (a serious, potentially fatal uterine infection). One solution might be to perform a hysterectomy (removal of the uterus), leaving the ovaries intact. Unfortunately, the effects of this technique on female dogs have never been studied. It is not known whether these dogs would continue to ovulate and perhaps show behavioral changes, although it is likely that there would be no discharge. Further, dogs that have this surgery will have intact ovaries, so veterinarians would need to establish an effective monitoring system for early detection of mammary cancer in intact bitches, as is available for women. In addition, there is the possibility of the dog developing stump pyometra if small amounts of uterine tissue are left behind during the hysterectomy. My current recommendation for performance dogs is to have them go through at least two heat cycles before spaying. Perhaps in the future hormone replacement therapy will be available for spayed females, but little is known about that at this time.

For males with retained testicles, there is a logical solution, based on fact. A large prospective study showed that the incidence of testicular cancer in cryptorchid dogs was 12.7/1000 dog-years at risk.⁽³⁹⁾ In other words, if 100 dogs with retained testicles live to be 10 years old, approximately 13 of them will develop cancer in the retained testicle. The average age at which tumors develop in undescended testes is 8.7 years.⁽⁴⁰⁾ These tumors are commonly benign, though they can grow quite large. Based on this study, I recommend that dogs with retained testicles have surgery to remove the retained testicle some time during the first three years of life and at that time they have a vasectomy on the remaining spermatic cord. This solution allows the dog to have the benefit of its sex hormones, but prevents passing this likely genetic condition on to offspring.

Most of all, it is important that we assess each dog and its living situation individually, weighing the risks and benefits of removal of the gonads. There is no single solution that fits every dog.

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“Poodles hunt? You gotta be kiddin’ me!”

So goes the typical hunter’s reaction when someone tells him about using this breed in the marshes and meadows. But three factors have long masked the poodle’s hunting talents from the general public’s view.

First, although considered a single breed, the poodle has three sizes: standard (over 15 inches at the withers), miniature (10 to 15 inches) and toy (under 10 inches). Even the most gullible hunter cannot picture a toy or even a miniature poodle tangling with an outraged, crippled Canada goose. Granted, some folks do hunt miniatures on smaller birds, but in general when we speak of hunting poodles, we mean only the standard size.



PCC Member's Margot Jorgensen's Donovan
Photo by a friend

Second, those outlandish dog show coifs that move us to mirth prevent us from visualizing such a dog with all that hair actually hunting anything—except possibly a place on the couch. I’ll admit to getting an occasional few minutes of entertainment listening to some dog show handler who has never hunted in his life explain how those fancy trims protect the dog when retrieving in water. In fact, those who hunt their poodles clip them down pretty close to the skin all over, so all that hair is no problem in either water or cover.

Third, poodles have a reputation as circus dogs, trick dogs, great entertainers—dogs that do humiliating things no self-respecting retriever would even consider. Truth is, the poodle simply has more talent—more smarts, if you will—than most other breeds, so they can do much more than “just” hunt. They love to be trained, love to entertain and love to please, so they will do anything the boss really wants them to do, whether in the circus ring or duck blind.

From the Middle Ages, Europeans have always considered the standard poodle a hunting dog. According to Canadian breed historian Emily Cain, Europeans categorized it as a spaniel. However, the French breed name, caniche, comes from chien canard, or “duck dog,” so they have also classified it a retriever.

In the 19th century, when the [American Kennel Club](#) (AKC) and the [Canadian Kennel Club](#) (CKC) were established, CKC classified the poodle as a retriever, but AKC tossed the breed into its non-sporting group. In 1938, when CKC recognized the toy poodle, they put both sizes into their non-sporting group.

But the [United Kennel Club](#) (UKC) has always considered the poodle a sporting breed. Since 1984, when UKC initiated their retriever hunt tests, several standard poodles have earned the highest titles awarded in those tests. Similarly, the [North American Hunting Retriever Association](#) (NAHRA) has always considered the poodle a retriever breed and allows them to participate in their retriever field tests.

In 1986, CKC allowed poodles to partake in their retriever Working Certificate tests. Largely due to the persistent but gentle prodding of poodle breeder and hunter Dr. Grace Blair, in 1996 AKC permitted the standard poodle to participate in retriever hunting tests. Since then, several poodles have earned the highest titles awarded in those tests.

Clearly, the standard poodle has excellent credentials as a working retriever. Hunters all over the country use them successfully in hunting, and run them just as effectively in various retriever hunt tests. For this article, I

consulted the following people who do both with their poodles: [Angie and Rich Louter of Red Hunting Poodles](#), [Evans Dietz](#) and [Gary Scovel of Lakeland Hunting Poodles](#).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Technically, any poodle that stands more than 15 inches at the withers is a standard poodle. However, most hunting poodles stand much taller, with males 24 to 26 inches and females 22 to 24 inches. Such males weigh 45 to 60 pounds; such females weigh 40 to 50 pounds.

These dogs are tall and lithe rather than short and stocky. Being lean and muscular, they have boundless energy and great stamina. Being highly athletic (whence comes their trick-dog image), they move with attractive grace and style.



PCC Member Vivienne
Swarbreck's Troy, "Can
CH UCH UCD URO1 SHR
Bibelot Tolka VIP of
Vibrant CDX JH WCI RE
CGC AKC CD, RN PCA
WC, WCX HIC St. John's
Ambulance Therapy Dog"
Photo by Patti Pentler

Now for the typical hunter's No. 1 FAQ (frequently asked question): What about that mass of curly hair called the poodle coat?

The coat may be any of several solid colors, most commonly black, gray, brown, apricot and white. Notably, this coat doesn't shed. That makes it every homemaker's favorite among canine coats. No dog hairs on the rug, sofa, bed or wherever. Then, too, this coat is hypoallergenic, which makes it the choice of dog lovers who are allergic to breeds that shed.

Since it doesn't shed, if left untrimmed the coat will grow continuously. When it gets long enough, the fur braids itself into long cords that drag on the floor. Thus, every poodle must be trimmed regularly, which is a time-consuming job, even for a professional groomer, and an expensive job for amateurs who choose not to trim their own poodles.

But—and for hunters this is a most important but—no law, rule or directive requires a hunter to keep his poodle in those outlandish dog show trims that make the dog look like a sissified male lion. Au contraire, the hunter may, can and should keep his poodle's coat trimmed down to somewhere around one inch long all over. At that length it curls tightly up against the skin.

Although trimming a poodle this way takes time and effort, it requires neither tonsorial skill nor artistic talent. Of course, it must be done frequently, say once a month. "During hunting season, the coat should be an inch long, or maybe a bit longer," said Angie Louter.

Thusly trimmed, the coat protects the dog in all but bone-chilling water. It will also protect him from upland briars and brambles. It does pick up burrs, but the boss can easily pluck them out with a dog comb or rake. To help slide them out easily, some hunters first spray a little cooking oil on each burr.

TEMPERAMENT

The typical poodle temperament is, in a word, delightful: alert, attentive, enthusiastic, eager to please, eager to perform, friendly with all welcoming humans and canines—a gracious host, a considerate guest.

“Jethro, my poodle, goes everywhere I go, including my business,” said Evans Dietz. “Kids and adults love him, and he loves the attention.”

Nevertheless, the typical poodle is no wimp. Several years ago, a lady told me about being grabbed by a man as she got into her car in a shopping mall parking lot. Her poodle came out of the car, attacked the man and frightened him off. Another woman told me that when a houseguest once accidentally wandered into her daughter’s bedroom, her poodle grabbed the intruder’s skirt and tugged on it to lead the woman out of that room.

When protecting their owners, poodles seem to have good judgment, applying no more force than necessary. (Incidentally, both of these aforementioned poodles were also hunters that had earned advanced hunting test titles.)

The typical poodle loves to learn to do new things. He loves performing, especially before an appreciative audience, and he’s tireless when working. However, he learns quickly and is therefore easily bored, much like the brightest (human) student in class. Thus repetitive drills, like those for the three parts of the blind retrieve (lining, stopping and casting), can bring out the creativity in a bored poodle.

After mastering, say, a particular line, instead of repeating it perfectly over and over, he may experiment and try new things, which is counter-productive in drills. For this reason, the trainer must be more creative than his dog. He must drill him in ways that don’t seem repetitive, like mixing in shot flyers or fun dummies between repetitions of a given drill.

The typical poodle also needs a training program that is predominantly positive. He wants to please, so if the boss ‘splains what he wants well enough, the pooch will need few corrections. Expressed appreciation for a job well done works wonders with a poodle. An over-corrected poodle shuts down, quits cold and may not revive for some time.

He is a house dog, not a kennel dog. Living in the house allows him to bond strongly with the boss, and figure the boss out from the canine perspective. Since he wants to please the boss so much, this understanding can make him seem like a mind reader in the field.



PCC Member Margot Jorgensen (featured in our handler focus this issue) with U-SHR, CKC Ch MOTCh Reigate's Here Comes The Sun, TDX, UTD, WC, JH, AGX, AGXJ, CGN, AAC ATChC, MSCDC, Bronze Jumpers, Silver Standard, Silver Award of Merit AKA Donovan; photo taken by a friend.

"To get the most from a poodle, buy him first as a companion and only second as a hunting dog," Gary Scovel said. "His hunting ability will depend greatly on his close bonding with you. He needs that to develop properly in the field."



PCC Member Margot Jorgensen (featured in our handler focus this issue) with Dono. Photo by a friend.

HUNTING NICHE

Like the other retriever breeds, the poodle is an all-rounder, both a waterfowl retriever and an upland bird flusher/retriever. He can hunt waterfowl in any of the various ways: from a shore blind, from a boat, from a field blind and in jump-shooting. He may not take to water as naturally as a Chesapeake Bay retriever, but he can learn to love it, especially if given an early start as a puppy.

"A poodle may take a little longer to enjoy water retrieving," Louter said. "But with a little patience, he adjusts to it nicely."

"Expose a poodle pup to water early and often, preferably with you in the water with him," Scovel said. "Do this when the water is reasonably warm."

"My Jethro took to water right away," Dietz said. "His coat keeps him warm, and it shakes dry very quickly."

Like most retriever breeds, the poodle produces many good duck dogs and a few good goose dogs.

"My wife's Callie is only 22 inches tall and 45 pounds," Scovel said. "She can handle crippled rooster pheasants and ducks, but for geese, I use my larger males, Beau and Scout. Neither has any problem body-slammng an irate, crippled Canada goose and bringing it back alive."

The standard poodle also works well in the uplands, covering the ground thoroughly, flushing boldly and retrieving reliably.

"Our poodles quarter naturally," Louter said, "and they stay in close naturally."

"I've never had to teach a poodle to quarter," Scovel added. "They also sit steady at heel when I'm blocking for a pheasant drive. This took training, but they took to it quite easily. They like to please."

As with any breed, to find a good poodle puppy prospect, you should look for a sire and dam with proven field ability. To begin this search, try contacting any of the three poodle-owning hunters quoted in this story.

Editor's note: Thank you so much to Mr James Spencer for allowing us to reprint this article. We do have PCC club members with dogs working as hunters and in field events (all the dogs featured in the photos with this article are member dogs); and there are Canadian breeders producing hunting stock. Please check our "available puppies" and "breeder/members directory" on our website. **The Poodle Club of Canada** holds hunt tests periodically. Our Field Chairperson is Melissa Blazak. CKC does recognize Poodles as a working retriever. www.poodleclubcanada.com

VERSATILITY IN POODLES (VIP): This is a national club that encourages poodle participation in hunting tests, PCA WC/WCX tests, obedience trails, agility rally and tracking. www.vipoodle.org

Save the Date & of Interest to Members

Remove Watermark Now

These are the outfits I make for our dogs and others. Christmas photo in red and the evening out or New year's party outfits. Just a little giggle to everyone from the crazy Lemoge poodle house.

Also, my little toy Can. Grand-Ch. & Am Ch. Lemoges a Breath of Jasmine (CGN) is the #1 toy poodle in Canada and working on her Am. Grand.

We do have some new little ones.

Submitted by Katelon Bajona-Fox (CKC) Judge



The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club has a **fabulous resource** - a listing of all health clinics for ALL breeds in USA and Canada:

http://cavalierhealth.org/health_clinics.htm

Wondering what a CHIC # is after a dog's name? "The Canine Health Information Center, also known as CHIC, is a centralized canine health database jointly sponsored by the

AKC/Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF) and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA)". Check out this link:

<http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/>

Looking for an adult Poodle needing a home? Try this new not-for-profit rescue group, in Ontario:

www.standardpoodlesinneed.com

"Dedicated to unwanted or homeless standard poodles, but also to toy poodles, mini-poodles and poodle mixes"

March 8 to March 9, 2014
Carp, Ontario (Indoor)
**OTTAWA VALLEY
POODLE CLUB
Obedience Trials**

Your dog is feeling under the weather - at 2 a.m.? Not sure whether it's time to go to the emergency clinic? This is a great resource:

<http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/symptoms/>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

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CH Gardenpath's Archangel

(TCH CH Pannovia's Chasing
Hearts CD RA TDX UTDX CGN
VCX x CH Canzone Bella Nina of
Gardenpath

TD CD RE CGN VCX)

"Boomer" is owned and loved by
Debbie Ng, bred by Renee S.
Koch and beautifully presented by
Team Alexander. He is the 3rd
pup to finish from this litter. Watch
for Boomer in the Performance
rings in the future!

Submitted by Renee Koch
Gardenpath Standard Poodles
Regd.



Last summer was very busy for
Gloria Koolsbergen.

Ch. Denote Glow Claire de Lune was
taken for a breeding to Staten Island,
New York at Easter time. She was
the last one to breed to Light N'Lively
Mr. Mac Cloud, a producer of
champions and Grand Champions
that are all over Poodles Variety.
Joan Markowitz asked her to co-own
the pick of the litter female. She is
lovely! Her call name is Neige and
will be registered as: **Glow with
Light N'Lively Fame**. Joan will have
her shown by Miyuki and
championed in the USA after she
has completed her Canadian
Championship. Gloria is looking
forward to her 6 month B-day!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Remove Watermark Now



Gloria Koolsbergen was very proud at Belleville of the first Champion of her own breeding: **CH Glow Sparkling Tinsel Bell**, daughter of German "Ch. Silver Eljano Vom Orecher's Hof" and Ch. Alegria Glow Joya de Plata got her Championship with points to spare ! Thank you to judges Elaine Whitney, M. Gelinas and all the other judges that recognized her beauty!
Submitted by Gloria Koolsbergen, Glow Poodles

What a team!! A beautiful 6 year old Poodle girl with a brain and a happy work ethic and a handler who knows how to make it fun and loves working with her dog. **Ch, GMOTCH Sandhill's Material Girl** (Chablis) and her wonderful owner and handler, Cathie Newey earned the final Q for their GMOTCH at the Collie and Shetland Sheepdog Obedience Trials on November 9th, 2012 in Montreal. And they went back the next day and earned another Q and another HIT!!

Submitted by Janis Morrison Bates, Sandhill Standard Poodles



Cathie and the ever-attentive Chablis

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Remove Watermark Now

9 1/2 yr old Rumor "**UKC Grand Ch RBCSWO Ch RO2 J C Pioneer's Sumthin to Tk Bout CGN RX ADC SGDC**" went best of breed 3 shows out of 4 at UKC shows held in Montreal November 2/3 . He beat 5 dogs and bitches less than half his age - he also went group 2nd twice. Not bad for an old boy! The highlight of my weekend was seeing Rumor and his son "UKC Ch Tinlet's Destin Parfait" going head to head for breed. The judge was literally scratching her head with Tripp's owner (Tara Lamper) and I grinning at each other. Then the judge says "they're related aren't they ?" LOL We all bust out laughing. That was a great moment ! My little homebred Toy girl Groovy "Paisley's Get Your Groove On" had no breed competition but did manage 2 group 3rds and 2 group 1sts.

Submitted by Priscilla Suddard



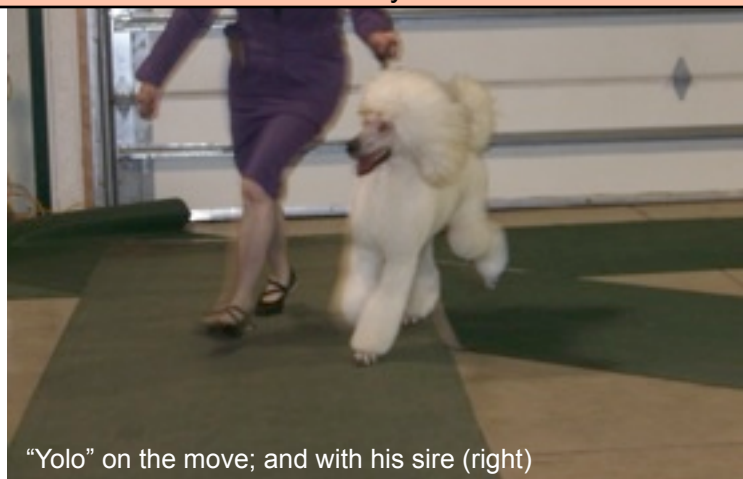
UKC Grand Ch RBCSWO Ch RO2 J C Pioneer's Sumthin to Tk Bout CGN RX ADC SGDC in the ring, photo by Carolyn Stevens



"Tripp," left with Tara; Priscilla with his sire "Rumor"

Nov 17th I attended the Maple Leaf Kennel club UKC show in Brampton. My cream boy "Yolo" **CKC/UKC CH Brielle's You Only Live Once** won the breed over his sire both shows and earned a group 4th. "Groovy", **UKC CH Paisley's Get Your Groove On** won the breed over competition both shows and finished her UKC Championship, and "Pocket" **UKC Ch Paisley's Emancipation** went group 2nd and 4th.

Submitted by Priscilla Suddard



"Yolo" on the move; and with his sire (right)



THE POODLE SCENE

FALL 2013

bodfelement

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DEPARTMENTS of RADIOLOGY
NEUROLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY



THOMPSON CENTER
FOR AUTISM & NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS



Do you own, breed, or handle miniature or standard poodles?

- Researchers at the University of Missouri would like to invite you to participate in a research study examining social behavior in miniature and standard poodles.
- Participation in this study involves the completion of an **online survey**. Owners, breeders, or handlers of miniature and/or standard poodles are eligible for the survey. This survey asks about the general social behaviors of a dog, such as attention, gesturing, and eye contact. Other information collected by the survey includes general health and training information.
- This study will provide insight into dog social behavior and how it relates to human behavior, especially in terms of social disorders such as autism. Shelley Green-Wooldridge, AKC handler, has advised the study investigators that social behaviors similar to autism have been observed in a subset of miniature and standard poodles. With thirty years of experience in working with poodles, Green-Wooldridge believes that this breed seems to be most appropriate to study for social behavior.
- Please join us in helping to conduct this study. If you would like to participate, please follow the link below for the survey. If you currently have more than one poodle, please complete one survey for each poodle.

Link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MiniaturePoodleSocialSurvey>

If you are interested in being contacted for future research studies, please email Rachel Zamzow at rachel.zamzow@mail.missouri.edu with your contact information. Feel free to contact Rachel Zamzow with any questions or concerns.

Highly recommended website <http://www.breedingfordiversity.com/>

Written by Dr. Pieter Oliehoek, who has researched a ground-breaking study on the Icelandic Sheepdog which used some clever calculations to identify pockets of diversity left in that endangered breed.

If you are considering having your MINI or TOY poodle's DLA Haplotypes analyzed now is the time! Carol Dureault has the kits required to send in your DNA to contribute to an important database and study. For more information about this very crucial initiative, please check out :

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

and

<http://poodleclubcanada.com/poodle-health/>