

THE POODLE SCENE

N E W S L E T T E R

Executive & Committees	2
Origin and Purpose of the Poodle Breed By Emily Cain	3 -5
Thoughts I had Driving Home from the Show by Caroline Coile	6 - 8
Save the Date	9
Congratulations to Members	10 - 11



Poodle Club of Canada: List of Officers and Committee Chairs

Remove Watermark Now

President/Présidente: Mary Jane Weir

First Vice-president/Vice-présidente: Teresa Myrfield

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

Corresponding Secretary/Secrétaire de correspondance: Margot Jorgensen

Recording Secretary/Secrétaire d'archives: Margot Jorgensen

Treasurer/Trésorière: Paul Maletta

Past-president: Cheryl Ingwersen

Directors/Directrices:

Alberta: Victoria (Tory) Tomblin

British Columbia: Sylvia Dodgson

Ontario: Allison Cowie

Quebec: Janis Bates

Membership Chairperson: Jane Beaudry – email

Standing Committee Chairs:

Amendments Margot Jorgensen

Library Joanne Reichertz

Good & Welfare Janis Bates

Newsletter Lisa Kimberly Glickman

Education Terill Udenberg

Obedience/rally Debby DaCosta

Field Melissa Blazak

Versatility Vivienne Swarbreck

Trophy fund Michelle Hope

Health Officer Mary Jane Weir, assistant Carol Dureault

Special Committee Chair: Breed Standard: Anne Bell

Mary Jane Weir, our PCC president, asked me to write an essay for publication in PCC's newsletter amplifying proposed changes to the breed history section of our CKC Poodle breed standard.

I'm assuming all of us read our newsletter on line, since that's how it is presented. Therefore, I've expressed (mostly the quick/easy Wikipedia) source references as links.

Braudel begins his three-volume history of the Mediterranean with a lengthy discussion of the drainage of Europe, commenced by the Romans and continuing to this day. (See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fernand_Braudel> and http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Mediterranean_and_the_Mediterranean.html?id=yAMe0bu3Jt4C>.)

Undrained Europe provided excellent habitat for puddle ducks, and, in particular the quasi-domesticated (similar to our North American robins) Mallard duck see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mallard>>). Undrained Europe also provided excellent habitat for the malaria mosquito (see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaria>> and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anopheles>>), and malaria was once endemic as far north as Norway. As habitat was reduced, populations of puddle ducks and the incidence of malaria was reduced in proportion.

The conservation movement http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conservation_movement#Origins_of_the_modern_conservation_movement> got underway in the mid-19th century and more recently even applied to hunting/harvesting the puddle ducks. Until these laws came into force, puddle duck harvest took place year-round.

During the couple of thousand years between commencement of drainage and application of conservation laws to Mallards, an effective way for market hunters and pot hunters to harvest puddle ducks was during summer fledging and moult, when the ducks lie close in cover. One traditional task of the water dog/water spaniel was to enter dense cover, and simply bring out the "flappers" one by one, fit for the table. When one of my Poodles matter-of-factly brought me a Mallard, calm and with head up as if sight-seeing, from dense cover during fledging season, this was for me a double epiphany: (1) the dog was doing what she was bred to do and (2) this is now illegal, so we couldn't walk there for a while! >).

Other methods of capture were trapping (see <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/PDUCKTR.HTM>>) gumming flight feathers with glue-slathered rods, shooting with arrows (when you next go to PCA National, drop in to see specialized waterfowling arrows at the Ward Museum in Salisbury, MD), falconry, and pot-hunting was one of the first uses of firearms (see <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/PDUCKGU.HTM>>).

Remove Watermark Now

For duck-hunting methodology and a water dog ("dogge") training manual during the early years of pot-hunting with firearms, see Gervaise Markham's Hungers Prevention (London: 1621), a portion of which is presented at <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/MARKHAM.HTM>>. The very title of Markham's book indicates the dietary augmentation provided by the plentiful puddle ducks. (Interesting to me, Brock, who was raised on Guernsey, upon his arrival at Newark--now Niagara-on-the-Lake--in 1810 gave permission to his men to fish and waterfowl to augment their diet.)

The cause of malaria was not determined until the early 20th century (see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronald_Ross>) but it was common knowledge previously that chance of infection was reduced by avoiding wetlands. Therefore, European hunting-culture preoccupations of the upper classes were focussed on uplands (to embark upon this subject, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medieval_hunting>) and restricted to themselves.

This left wetlands free to lower classes--pot hunters and market hunters. One startling exception was Henri IV of France who had a passion for duck hunting and kept a kennel of Barbets and thus avoided society (for this and other fascinating footnotes see Le baron Dunoyer de Noirmont, Histoire de la Chasse en France depuis les temps les plus reculés jusqu'a la Révolution (Paris: vol. 1: 1867; vols. 2 & 3: 1868) now available on line thanks to the Boston Public Library:

<<https://archive.org/details/histoiredelachas01duno>><<https://archive.org/details/histoiredelachas02duno>> and <<https://archive.org/details/histoiredelachas03duno>>).

British dog breeds tend to be single-purpose: fox hunters, otter hunters, pointers, setters, flushing spaniels, retrievers, and so on. By contrast, European dog breeds tend to be multi-purpose. Hans Brunotte (see <<http://www.infodog.com/judges/3300/juddat.htm>>) explained to me "the British had more money"--could keep a dog to perform each specialist task--"the Europeans kept just one dog"--multi-purpose). The European water dog with the ever-growing curly coat (first waterproof coat), of which our Poodles are one manifestation, is a European multi-functional generalist, with a main water dog purpose, and the main purpose of the European waterdog was all-season harvest of the Mallard duck in malarial wetlands by the lower class people free to hunt there.

ORIGIN AND PURPOSE OF THE POODLE BREED STANDARD

By Emily Cain

Remove Watermark Now

The various images we have of Poodles and proto-Poodles (see the collection of art history references in the Poodle History Project <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/PZZGPV.HTM>>) and particularly the wonderful 18th and 19th century pet-portraits (see <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/PZZGPV2.HTM>>) are the result of gentry who could afford to have dog-portraits painted, and their Poodle and proto-Poodle favorites were adopted from a brilliantly-versatile pool of dogs developed and maintained by the lower classes. This is reminiscent of Queen Alexandra's adoption of rough collies as a favorite breed, and that they were her favorites didn't change the traditional social placement or function of the dogs as seen, for one example, in Beatrix Potter's JEMIMA PUDDLEDUCK when Jemima confronts the farmyard guardian-collie.

Similarly, the various traditional jobs of our dogs, subject-headings in the Poodle History Project (<<http://www.poodlehistory.org/>>)--an annotated bibliography of which I am editor and co-ordinator--are outgrowths of the traditional main water-dog function, and we may think of multiples of these functions performed by the same dog on the same day.

Our open-air living-heritage villages--Upper Canada Village; Wentworth Heritage Village--in Southern Ontario are manifestations of the European equivalents listed in <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_open-air_and_living_museums>. These are the most accessible places to imagine the lives of the various varieties of the European water dogs from the commencement of drainage under the Romans (see <<http://www.poodlehistory.org/PZZGPV1.HTM>> to admire a proto-Poodle in a Continental on a Roman coin) until approximately the development of the dog-show movement in the fourth quarter of the 19th century. This is where and how their owners--their breeders for millenia--lived, and those lifestyle requirements developed our dogs' wonderful hallmark-versatility, intelligence, and uncanny ability to get along with us. (I almost wrote "manage us"...)

Woodcut from: Gervase Markham, Hungers Prevention
(London, 1621), p. 70.



NEWSLETTER: PLEASE SEND ME BRAGS, HUMOUR, RECIPES, ETC - WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IN YOUR
NEWSLETTER TO [Editor](#)
NEXT NEWSLETTER, Autumn ISSUE

Thoughts I Had Driving Home From The Show

May 19, 2014 by Caroline Coile

reprinted with express written permission from Showsight Magazine

Remove Watermark Now

I Can't, I Won't...

Being an owner handler, I've always rooted for the little guy. One of my greatest pleasures is when an owner handler tells me they've finished their first champion thanks to my book, Show Me!, which I wrote so newcomers could get ahead. So I suspected I would surprise many of my friends with my column of a couple of months ago, the one where I basically told owner handlers to stop whining and start winning. Or at least, start doing a better job of trying.

Some readers agreed with it. I noticed these were mostly the owner-handlers who were, well, winning. Some readers said they were going to do better (yay!). But many readers took issue and were downright offended. "Just what we need to give judges an excuse to put up more handlers!" some complained. That was never the intention---I don't think---or had I really turned to the dark side?

So I listened to their criticisms and tried to see it both ways. They had some good points, and those will be the subject of a future column. But meanwhile, one particular thing struck me. Here's an example: Though it was a minor part of the column, my lament that that too many owner handlers looked dressed to go grocery shopping caused the most ire. "But I can't afford expensive outfits," said several. Me neither! I explained it wasn't about the price tag, it was about dressing professionally---which can actually be done on the cheap! To which the response was, "But I can't afford \$800 jackets and \$150 shoes," "But I can't wear skirts because of my weight," "But I can't wear anything but orthopaedic shoes," "But I get really hot in a jacket," and so on..." I clarified again: Professional doesn't mean expensive, professional looks can be achieved in slacks and orthopaedic (not track) shoes, and in most cases if the judge can wear long sleeves all day, you can tough it out for five minutes in the ring. "Is this how you would dress if you were going to court in front of a judge?" I asked them to ask themselves. And the reply was, "But I can't afford expensive outfits/I can't (fill in the blank)..." And that's when it hit me: I had entered the world of "I can't because..." Anyone who has given training advice to dog owners knows the "I can't because" reply. "I can't because my breed is different/he hates men/he was abused/I tried that/I'm a Virgo..." Sure, many "I can't's" are legit. You can't run fast, you don't look good in a skirt, you aren't experienced enough to handle as well as you'd like. But every time you say "I can't because" ask yourself: Is that you can't because you really can't or you can't because you don't want to? If you don't want to, that's fine. But own up to it and accept the consequences.

The other main criticism was that my article advocated just what was wrong with dog shows today: that it was all about showmanship and not about the dog. "The handler is supposed to be invisible," they said. I agreed---but the handler should make sure the dog is not invisible, I countered. "The judge should find the dog regardless," they said. True. But "should" doesn't always translate into "will." Not in two minutes. Try this exercise. Go to a show well before the first breed is judged. Now station yourself outside one ring. You can bring a drink, but no snacks. You can bring a chair, but here's the rule: No sitting unless the judge is sitting. No talking to friends unless it's between classes. Wear clothing you would wear to judge. Station yourself so you can see down & backs, posed line ups and go-arounds. Add a few deep knee bends or such when the judge examines each dog. Bring a notebook for you to record your placements, which will have to be done by the time the judge points. You need to do this in writing to force yourself to make irrevocable decisions in the allotted time. You are not allowed to leave your post unless the judge does (OK, you do get a break to show your own dog...) Plan on being there for at least four or five hours, maybe longer, and on making decisions between at least a hundred dogs, usually more. And realize there will be multiple decisions often affecting the same dog---not just classes, but Winners and Reserve and BOB and BOS and BOW and Selects---so while you may see 100 dogs that can translate into 150 decisions. Now do it the next day as well.

You'll probably breeze through your favourite breeds, making choices without regard to presentation or faces. But eventually some breeds are going to be tough, and you're going to be tired, and you would really like for the clear choice to be made obvious to you rather than having to play a game of Where's Waldo to find the best dog. You may start to subconsciously rely on clues from the handler: There's the guy who always has big winners in this breed; there's a dog who has clearly been groomed expertly; there's a dog that shows like he belongs in the group ring; there's a handler who looks like she's dressed for success.

Let's make it more interesting. Add some friends and have them do the same exercise. Compare your choices after each class. Now let's say you will be graded on your performance, and that grade will be determined by how well your scores go along with the majority or how well you defend your choices.

Remember, judges come to each breed with differing levels of preparation and confidence. "But," you say, "a judge should only judge those breeds they are utterly confident in!" But the reality of hiring judges is that unless a judge can judge several groups, only large or local shows can afford to hire them. Otherwise the club pays the same transportation and hotel for a judge to judge one group of 70 dogs as they would for one to judge four groups of 70 dogs on a weekend. Multi-breed AKC judges are the most prepared in the world, but even after attending seminars and specialties there are bound to be breeds that are not amongst a judge's best. I've been showing my one breed for 40 years---there's no way I expect a multi-group judge to know it as well as I do. Some judges manage to excel at many breeds nonetheless. Others just hope not to make a complete wreck of things. Your job is to help them find the best dog (which, of course, is yours)---not make them wade through all the entries to discover your buried treasure. Because after judging 150 dogs, they're not going to dig very deep---especially if they lack confidence in your breed.

I used an example from my past, one of a plain coloured "coyote grizzle," lightly feathered, non-animated saluki who refused to bait and had a "get lost" attitude to all. She was invisible in the specials ring. Until one day I decided to quit fighting her attitude and instead emphasize it. I let her stand by herself at the very end of the lead while she glared at the judge. We won the group that day. Four groups later she won a Best In Show. She went from invisible to eye-catching simply because I did have the sense to let her show herself---although it could be argued it was a bit of grandstanding. I thought it was a good story to illustrate that showmanship does count, but it's not about the handler making a scene. I just stood there. Yet some still responded that the story illustrated "what was wrong with dog shows." The judge should have found her no matter how she was shown. I countered that my job was make sure the judge noticed her so the judge could then do his job of evaluating her. And quite honestly, as unknown owner handlers, we do not have the advantage of a known face, so we really do have to try just a tad harder to make sure our dog stands out. I think a few "got it" but for others, it morphed into how they refused to dye dogs and fix tails and such. Somehow they started to equate showmanship with cheating, and "what was wrong with dog shows today." And it hit me again: I had left the world of "I can't because..." and entered the world of "I won't because..." I know this world well, because I am a world class "I won't because..." champion. There are times it is a good thing---like when it comes to "I won't because it's cheating/it's bad for my dog/it's bad for my reputation..." Just now there are some shows I dearly want to go to but my schedule won't allow for the drive, and I don't fly my dogs. "Just take him as a service dog," several friends have suggested. No. That's one of my "I won'ts" I will stick to even though it will cost us wins.

But there are times when "I won'ts" are less defensible. Example: I started competing in agility about ten years ago. In agility, your dog must touch the yellow "contact zones" on the down side of the A-frame and dog walk. My dog believes the yellow paint has acid in it, so almost always leaps over it, accounting for most of his non-qualifying runs. "Have you tried the such & such method?" helpful trainers would innocently ask. And then regret it as I launched into my anti-contact zone rant:

Thoughts I Had Driving Home From The Show May 19, 2014 by Caroline Coilecontinued

Remove Watermark Now

"I won't because the contacts are stupid and dangerous and unfair; they were designed so little dogs wouldn't hurt themselves leaping off while still too high up, but they are actually lower than the height large dogs jump, it's equivalent to having an 8 inch or even lower contact zone for the little dogs, and for a big long-legged sighthound to hit the contact zone at a run causes him to end up plowing his nose into the ground, and the two-on-two-off method has got to be hard on their back, and sucks all the fun out of those obstacles, and I WON'T train it because the AKC needs to do something about it." Only the agility rule makers have no intention of doing something about it. So last year I had a revelation. I can continue to say "I won't train contacts because..." or I can decide to accept the rules and train my dog. Either is a fair choice; but not training for the rules that exist and then continuing to compete and whine based on principles is just stupid. (But if there are any AKC agility officials reading this, did I mention contact zones are unfair and unsafe and...oh well..."

What does this have to do with the show ring? If you say, "I won't dress professionally, train my dog to sparkle, or learn how to make my dog stand out in the ring because I don't think showmanship/appearance/presentation should play a role in dog shows," that's your legitimate choice. But don't whine when somebody who has done so beats you. Because nobody is going to change the dog showing world because you disagree with the way it is.

When you say "I can't" or "I won't" ask yourself if you're making excuses. Again, there are legitimate reasons we can't or won't do certain things. But sometimes we can use them as excuses, and in those cases, maybe you can or should. Because it may be easier and more rewarding to change your mindset than it is to change the dog show world.



SAVE THE DATE

Remove Watermark Now

Ottawa Valley Poodle Club Specialty Show: July 21, 2014

There will be 2 all-breed shows each day. Monday, will be extra special for all poodles entered on that day. In addition to the Specialty, the all-breed show #1 will have poodle breeder/judge Carol Graham doing breeds & group for Group 5 and Jackie Rusby doing breeds & group for Group 6 plus Best in Show. Carol Graham will be doing Best in Show for all-breed show #2..

Info & Premium list:

www.MJNshowservices.com OFFICIAL PREMIUM LIST

Members Advertising:

Full Page: \$10.00

1/2 Page: \$ 5.00

Business card \$2.00

PCC NATIONAL WILL BE IN
DECEMBER AT ORANGEVILLE
ONTARIO THIS YEAR - DETAILS
TO BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY

"Spird" 5 weeks old
GLICKS STANDARD POODLES Regd



"Vigo" 5 weeks old
GLICKS STANDARD POODLES Regd

<http://www.poodlehealthregistry.org> interesting info
and a great place to research pedigrees

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Remove Watermark Now

“Ch Seransil Taking the High Road” Crosby went on the road to shows in Spokane Washington and brought home 2 majors towards his American Championship. His first was from the Panorama Poodle Club Speciality, pictured here where he won Winners Dog, BOW, BOS, BBE in Specialty Show for a 4 point major. his 2nd major was a BOV win over specials from the classes for a 5 point major. Many thanks to Judges Fred Basset and Carolyn Herbel for recognizing the quality of my young silver boy. Submitted by Evelyn Sera, Seransil Standard Poodles. www.seransilpoodles.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Remove Watermark Now

"Cosi"

Can. UKC CH. Beaucaniche Cosi Fan Tutti RA URO1 CGN

(CH. Beaucaniche Raven Marlis CGN X TCH CH Pannovia's Chasing Hearts CD RA
TDX UTDX CGN HIC(s) VCX TP)

has had a busy few weeks. He earned his Rally Advanced title at the Erie Shores show the first week of June. Then, while at the UKC Premier show in Kalamazoo Michigan the 2nd week of June, he earned his UKC Championship title. He also completed his URO1 title. Both wins earned him the Total Dog distinction. We are so proud of our Boy. He is bred and owned by Sherry Stanley of Beaucaniche Standard Poodles.



HUMOUR

Remove Watermark Now

Two patients limp into two different Canadian
Medical clinics with the same complaint.

Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The first patient is examined within the hour,
Is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The second sees the family doctor after waiting a week for an appointment,
then waits eighteen weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray, which isn't reviewed for another
month, and finally has their surgery scheduled for a year from then.

\Why the different treatment for the two patients?

The first is a Poodle

The second is a Senior Citizen.

- submitted by Susan Fraser

