



GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958

DECEMBER 2015

WHAT'S MORE POPULAR?

By Jeffrey D Ball

Are mixed breeds dogs more popular than the purebred dogs in the USA today? How about rescued dogs compared to purchased purebred dogs? They are tough questions to answer, but one statistic I found stated that 53 percent of dogs owned by Americans are mixed breeds. Numbers of those mixed breeds purchased versus rescued were not available. All the remaining statistics I found, I personally believe are skewed by the group reporting them. But one thing I am sure of, Rescue and Mixed Breeds are talked about a whole lot more than purebreds.

Everywhere you turn you see or hear something about mixed breeds or shelter dogs. Why is that? For so many years the proper thing to do was own a purebred dog. A purebred show dog—now that was prestigious. People were proud to own a purebred. The reason for that was for

years the American Kennel Club was the premier and primary resource for dog information. The public looked to them for any information about dogs. How did people get that information? Through AKC magazines, books, match shows, point shows or asking responsible AKC breeders. Veterinarians would even refer many questions about breeds to the AKC.

What has changed over the years? Why have mixed breed and rescue dogs become so popular? To answer that we can look at how things are changing. Take, for example, our Match and Point Shows. Both exhibitor and visitor attendance are way down. Does this mean that the public is not looking for information or attending dog events? The answer is that they still are, and more so than ever before. People today are just doing it much differently.

Recently I attended a Barkfest near my house.

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RKC Training class puppy graduate winners 1st-4th place—3 Vizslas and a Swedish Vallhund.

AMY STAROST

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM

President's Message



JACK GRASSA

Sharon Fremer

Most people's Thanksgiving dinner leftovers have barely been devoured and here it is, time for our holiday dinner. I hope many of you will all take a few hours to come to Franco's Restaurant in West Caldwell at 7:00 next Wednesday night, December 9th. It will be a buffet-style Italian dinner. Franco's is a Bring Your Own Bottle establishment, but they

will supply soda if you prefer that. Dessert is not included. Please contact Lorraine if you are willing to contribute something to share, via phone at 973-227-0945 or via email at lorrfenn1@optonline.net.

We will hold our traditional Yankee Gift Swap. Participation is not mandatory, but those that wish to join the fun should contribute a wrapped

gift valued at approximately \$20 and be prepared for mayhem. Basic rules are as follows:

Each participant supplies one wrapped gift. The gifts are placed in a central location and participants draw numbers to determine the order in which they will select one. The first person opens a wrapped gift, shows it to the participants and his/her turn ends. On subsequent turns, each person has the option of "stealing" any previously chosen, unwrapped item from its new owner or taking a new, wrapped item from the gift pile. When a player's gift is stolen, they must select a replacement gift

from the pile of wrapped presents. The game is over when the last person has taken their turn. Ramapo has added a few variations to the basics which we will explain before the swap begins.

For those that enjoyed Jane Killion's Puppy Culture presentation in March of this year, or for those who missed it, she will be speaking at the NJ Federation of Dog Clubs meeting on Monday, December 7th. She's expanded her program since speaking to us, so there may be new material included in this upcoming program. NJFDC meetings are held at 8pm in the Holiday Inn, 195 Davidson Avenue in Somerset, NJ 08873. The program is open to all members of Federation member clubs. FMI please contact Jeffrey Ball or me.

I hope all our members and their dogs (& all your other pets) enjoy happy, healthy holidays. Thank you for your contributions to this club throughout the year. Ramapo's popular obedience, rally and show handling classes are a testament to the devoted individuals that ensure their students have fun while they and their dogs learn how to be star puppies, good citizens and happy, reliable competitors. Our point shows are successful because we have dedicated, enthusiastic volunteers working hard to make them fun for everyone there. Our match show was once again very well attended and ran smoothly from set-up to break-down. I look forward to another year filled with these same events as well as new ones. Let us know if you have ideas for things to do in 2016, We're eager to hear from you.

Our January program is still being decided. It will be announced when Tilly sends out the notification early in the month.

Hope to see you all next Wednesday night.

Happy Holidays!

Sharon

Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

President

Sharon Fremer
teneo@mac.com

Vice President

Amy Starost

Treasurer

Ruth Henningsen

Recording Secretary

Kim Luikert

Corresponding Secretary

Tilly Grassa
tgcreative@aol.com

Board of Directors 2016

Melissa Ayer
Gerrie Oliver
Rose Radel

2017

Elaine Barone
Lorraine Fennemore
Janis Hayes

AKC Delegate

Jeffrey David Ball

Minutes

**RKC Member Meeting
November 11th 2015
American Legion Hall 450
11 Oak Ave Pequannock, NJ 07440**

Dr. Mary Stankovics and Debbie Leach from Straw to Paws, frozen semen specialists, gave an informative presentation to members.

Sharon Fremer called the meeting to order at 9:39 pm.

Recording Secretary- Lorraine Fennemore made a motion to accept the October 14th minutes. Diane Ammerman seconded, voted upon and approved.

Corresponding Secretary- Tilly Grassa read letters from candidates running from the floor for Board of Directors of the AKC class of 2020. Rita Biddle, Patricia Cruz, William Feeney, Gretchen Bernardi, Linda Ayers Turner Knorr and Thomas Powers. The Symons' from California sent a letter with a \$50 check in memory of Sue Cone.

The Symons' \$50 gift for Sue Cone will be put towards a memorial obedience trophy in her name. Elaine Barone and Vivian Bregman will look into finding the appropriate trophy to use in memory of Sue Cone.

Treasurer- September checking balance \$23,240.15

Sunshine- Lorraine reported that Lena Tamboer was in the hospital for several days, she would enjoy cards from members. Cindy McMillian twisted her knee and is on crutches she will

receive a fruit basket from the Club. Lorraine thanked the Club for the donation for her granddaughter.

AKC - Jeffrey Ball was absent.

NJFDC- Sharon reported that Puppy Culture will be having a program at the December meeting. Show calendars are available for \$5, see Sharon.

Point show 2016- Melissa Ayer asked if members have any judge requests please send them to her ASAP.

Meeting Location- Elaine made a motion to have American Legion Hall 450, located at 11 oak Ave. in Pequannock, be the new RKC meeting location. Seconded by Gerrie Oliver, voted on and approved.

Holiday Party- Franco's in West Caldwell on December 9th cost is \$25.00 please bring a dessert, gift swap for those who want to participate.

Match Show- June 4th 2016 tentative date at Sunnybank and Fred Hachtel will chair with Sharon's assistance. Amy Starost will chair the obedience end.

Refreshments for January meeting - Tilly and Elaine.

Guests- Leigh Cohen and Joan Kuehm

Tilly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 pm seconded by Elaine voted on and approved.

Respectfully submitted by

Kim Luikert

November 20, 2015



Holiday Party

Dec. 9, 2015

FRANCO'S RESTAURANT

907 Bloomfield Ave
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

7:00 .p.m.

\$25.00

BYOB and BYO dessert

BRING A SMALL ITEM FOR THE GIFT EXCHANGE:

Contact Lorraine at lorryfenn1@optonline.net

or at 973-227-0945



Five Heroic Dogs Honored With AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE)

The AKC® Humane Fund has announced the winners of the 16th annual AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). These awards commemorate five loyal, hard-working dogs that have significantly impacted the lives of their owners and people in their communities.

One award is presented in each of the following five categories: Uniformed Service K-9, Service, Therapy, Search and Rescue and Exemplary Companion dog. This year's winners include a Military Working Dog that protects Presidents, a Great Dane that helps his young owner walk, a therapy dog that comforts military members and their loved ones, a human remains detection dog that brings closure to families and a show dog that serves as an ambassador for purebred dogs.

"Whether they serve as uniformed service, search and rescue, therapy, service, or exemplary companion dogs, each ACE nomination we receive is a testimony to the loyalty, devotion and strength dogs give to us," said AKC Spokesperson Gina DiNardo. "Each dog's devotion to their work and the impact they make in their community is an inspiration to dog lovers everywhere."

All of the ACE recipients will receive \$1,000 to be awarded to a pet-related charity of their choice, a one year pet insurance

policy from Pet Partners, Inc. and an engraved sterling silver medallion to be presented at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in Orlando, Florida on Saturday and Sunday, December 12-13, 2015.

This year's ACE winners are:

Uniformed Service K-9: "Pablo," a Belgian Malinois handled by Greg Madrid of Albany, Georgia "K9 Pablo" is a nine-year-old Belgian Malinois Military Working Dog (MWD), who is a certified



PEDD (Patrol/Explosive Detection Dog) by the US Air Force, and is assigned to the Marine Corps Police Department in Albany, Georgia. Pablo regularly serves on Secret Service details for visiting dignitaries. In the past year, Pablo has provided protection for President Obama, Vice President Biden, Former President Clinton

and Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Pablo also regularly attends Sunday morning church service at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Georgia to help protect Former President Carter while he teaches Bible Study. Pablo participates in nearly every career day at the local schools, and many non-profit and charity events in his local community.

Service Dog: "George," a Great Dane owned by Rachel Burton of



Woburn, Massachusetts

"George" comes from the Service Dog Project, which trains dogs to help the mobility impaired. The Great Dane was paired with Bella, a 10-year-old girl with a rare genetic disorder called Morquio Syndrome. This disorder makes mobility exceptionally difficult and requires Bella to undergo many operations. Before she met George, Bella used a wheelchair

or crutches to move around, but George has given Bella the strength and determination to walk and take part in activities she otherwise would not have been able to do. George and Bella have an inseparable bond and he will do anything for her. He has helped her gain confidence, independence and happiness.

Therapy Dog: “Wynd,” a Rottweiler owned by Renice Zimmerman of Yorktown, Virginia For her owner Renice, “Wynd” is



an once-in-a-lifetime therapy dog. Wynd has served on the therapy dog team for military surviving family members at The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) National Seminar in DC for the past three Memorial Days and has volunteered at the Survivor Outreach Service booth at military events many times. Wynd is also a regular at the Hampton Veterans Hospital Domiciliary program, interacting and working closely with veterans with PTSD and substance abuse, and visits at the assisted living center at the

VA hospital as well. During the school year, Wynd visits Suffolk Humane Society’s BARKS reading program, encouraging a love of reading and helping many kids overcome their fear of dogs.

Search and Rescue Dog: “Ty,” a German Shepherd Dog handled by Melissa Frye of Southport, Florida “Ty,” officially known as K-9 Ty Ty Road RN CGC, is an eight-year-old German Shepherd Dog trained in human remains detection. Over the span of his six year career, Ty



has become the go-to K-9 in his department for recovery searches, helping to bring closure to families that have lost loved ones. He has been deployed on over 60 missions with great success, particularly in his specialty of water recovery. Ty is also cross-trained for live find search and disaster work, and serves as the Bay County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue public relations dog. He’s a natural with all ages and eats up the attention he gets after putting on demonstrations.

Exemplary Companion Dog: “Mufasa,” a Bernese Mountain Dog owned by Kristen and Robin Greenwood of Bel Air, Maryland “Mufasa,” who won Best of Breed at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in 2014, is as an ambassador to his breed, purebred dogs and the American Kennel Club. This Bernese Mountain Dog greets visitors to his owners’ dog wash business (where he has a regular fan club) and his presence alone helps the local community to learn about



AKC and responsible breeders. As a well-trained, excellent example of his breed, Mufasa helps to open the lines of communication about responsible breeders, and how these breeders are great ways to add a healthy and happy dog to the family. While some may have negative impressions of the dog show world and the life of an AKC show dog, Mufasa shows them that most “show dogs” are first and foremost well-loved family companions.

WHAT'S MORE POPULAR? *Continue from page 1*

Barkfest and other such events are dog events run by individuals or organizations that invite any dog-related industry to attend and promote themselves. I have to say, it was an amazing event for a small town. They had nearly one hundred and fifty vendors. My first question was: Who were these vendors? You know all those vendors that don't come to dog shows anymore? They were there—along with multiple rescue organizations, ASPCA,



A very successful Barkfest.

HSUS, police demo teams, obedience and agility demos, trainers, boarding facilities, groomers, politicians and—most importantly—a couple of thousand people! I did not see one thing about AKC or their affiliates.

Does this answer the question “Who are people learning from?” It's not from the most knowledgeable group, the American Kennel Club.

It's bad enough that people are learning from the wrong resources—the media heavily influences them. And what does the media like to report? Things that are controversial, dramatic or, as they say, “that make people sit up and pay attention.” Since, in general, the public loves animals, media stories abound. There are always dog-related stories being posted on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and blogs. These stories are found in many different places. People pay attention to them, especially when they are at their fingertips on their smartphones and iPads.

What stories grab their attention? The sensational stories do. Which do you think the general public would read first—a story about the number 2 show dog in the country that has all its health checks being campaigned, or one about a Rescue Group that saved 10 puppies from a backyard breeder and found amazing homes for each of them? I know, you might read the first one, but you are not the general public. What kind of impression does each of the articles leave with the public reader? The first article would probably not even be printed, but you can be sure the second one would.

Social media has changed dramatically over the years and the purebred fancy has not kept up with it. The consequences of that have put us behind. But this does not mean we cannot change things and still have an impact. We can, but we have our work cut out for us.

AKC recently announced their affiliation with Fido TV. Great, it's a nice start. But the problem with that is so many media outlets are not interested in FidoTV. Fido TV only has a deal with Dish Satellite TV. Dish serves less than 14 million homes in the US. That's a potential of 14 million viewers only if everyone watches in real time or records. Dish also serves hundreds of channels, so you are not going to get that type

of viewership on the one channel. They will be lucky to reach a few thousand people. May I ask, have you watched this network? For that matter, how many people really watch TV anymore?

In the meantime, we have generations of people learning more about dogs from rescue groups, animal rights groups or even unscrupulous breeders who create that mixed breed that they claim is healthier than our purebreds.

The purebred fancy needs to become united and active. Spending big money on social media helps, but is not going to solve the problem completely. We need to have a plan, a unified message that attacks on all avenues of social media. Even the ones that the dog fancy may think are not worth it—media that appeals to the younger generation.

We also need a grass-roots effort to change the social outlook of the purebred dog. It's people like you and others who are reading this that can make the difference. Every educational program you take, every person you talk to, makes a difference. It's time the public learns all the good things we do for the canine world. It's not going to help just saying we know we are doing the right thing and that animal rights activists are lying. Being right and doing nothing is going to have dire consequences for the canine fancy. And if we don't, Animal Rights will win out in the near future and it will have dire consequences long term on the canine world. They have people currently doing all the things we should be doing. We will watch certain breeds disappear over time as well as our rights. Dog breeders will go the way of Horse carriages, circuses and many of the big companies.

Step up and make a positive impact in this battle.

RKC Show Handling Schedule - 2015/16

TUESDAY EVENINGS

6:45 - 7:30

Drop-in classes: \$12.00 per dog,

OR 6 classes for \$60.00

No classes July and August

Dec. 1, 15

Jan. 19, 26

Feb. 2, 23

Mar. 1, 22

Apr. 5, 26

May 3, 24

June 14

FMI: Linda Hachtel

973-697-4337

or Sharon Fremer

201-665-2565, teneo@mac.com

RKC Training Class Schedule - 2015/16

TUESDAY RALLY CLASSES

7:30 - 8:15 RALLY ADV/EXC.

8:30 - 9:15 RALLY NOVICE

(Basic obedience skills required)

Session 2

Dec. 1, 15

Jan. 5, 19, 26

Feb. 2

Session 3

Feb. 16, 23

Mar. 1, 15, 22, 29

Apr. 5

Session 4

Apr. 19, 26

May 3, 17, 24, 31

June 14

Feb. 9 CGC/THERAPY testing

(there is a fee for testing)

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Puppy Kindergarten 6:30-7:15

Beginner Obedience 7:30-8:15

Advanced Beginner 8:30-9:15

Session 2

Dec. 2, 16

Jan. 6, 20, 27

Feb. 3

Session 3

Feb. 17, 24

Mar. 2, 16, 23, 30

Apr. 6

Session 4

Apr. 20, 27

May 4, 18, 25

June 1, 15

June 22 CGC/THERAPY testing

(there is a fee for testing)

FOR CLASS INFORMATION AND TIMES

CONTACT:

RUTH HENNINGSSEN 973-697-9456 or email

at: RUTHH.SNODOG@JUNO.COM

OR JOANNE SILVER 201-891-5090

JOANNE SILVER1937@YAHOO.COM

Class registration form available on the website:

ramapokennelclub.com/RKCclasses



Fred Hachtel showing off his puppy trick (dog riding his back!)

AMY STAROST

Braggs

Cover Girls

Long-time members, Dick and Sue Symons were proud to have two of their dogs on the covers of *Tervuren News Tales*, the publication of the American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc. recently:

“Marjji” (pictured at left) has been an inspiration since the day she came to live with us. There is nothing that we have tried to accomplish with her that she wasn’t willing to try, give it her ALL and “let’s have FUN.” She is constantly coming to us and asking for our time and with her encouragement we have made unheard of strides not only for us, but for the wonderful breed. Marjji’s enthusiasm has led us to greater depths in various venues than we had previously achieved or thought possible. She is an asset to the breed in that she loves all people and makes friends much more readily than most dogs, even our previous Belgian Tervuren. Her culmination of achievements — events that are



Left: BISS Gch CT MACH Cinema Angel Marjji Symons VCD4 HT MXB MJB MFB TQX THDD CGC TDIEVA TT, Right: Ch CT Symons’ Treasure Jessi UD AX AXJ XF CA THD DGC TDIA, on the cover of *Tervuren News Tales*



one in a lifetime events— tells the world what an outstanding “person” she is to all who meet her. She is our Treasure— “Beauty and Brains in One Loving Package.” “Jessi”, Marjji’s daughter began her training at about a month of age, but her show career started at 6 months and one day earning her TD with Dick who does all the tracking and agility. She loved training with all its attention with motivation of food, balls and a frisbee. Jessi started obedience

class at 4 months and to the amazement of the trainers, was “head of the class” from the beginning. She easily completed her CD and in January 2014 finished her CDX. Conformation here and there brought her a few points. Two days of October Specialties and she won both majors. Jessi is a honey to live with and assists Dick at our local hospital and nursing home doing pet therapy, making friends and being a diplomat wherever she goes.

AAA Now!

Animal Pet Shelter Drive

November 16 – December 18, 2015

Due to the overwhelming success of the company’s Annual Pet Shelter Drive, AAA North Jersey is proud to announce the continued support to help local animal shelters in need. Beginning Monday, November 17 through Saturday, December 20, AAA will be accepting donations on behalf of “no-kill”, “non-profit” animal shelters located in Bergen, Passaic and Hudson counties. Donations of food, toys, collars, leashes, towels, blankets, and cleaning and office supplies will be accepted at the following AAA North Jersey locations:

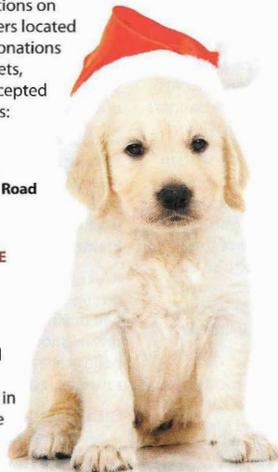
FAIRLAWN OFFICE
23-16 Broadway,
Fairlawn, NJ
(201) 703-2000

ORADELL OFFICE
505 Kinderkamack Road
Oradell, NJ
(201) 261-7900

WAYNE OFFICE
418 Hamburg Turnpike
Wayne, NJ
(973) 956-2200

SECAUCUS OFFICE
700 Plaza Drive
Secaucus, NJ
(201) 902-1393

Donations can be dropped off at your local AAA North Jersey offices during normal business hours. There are so many animals in desperate need of your help. So let’s please all work together to make this community drive another huge success!



Where do dogs sleep at night?



Data By American Kennel Club

Items for Sale

ENTLESTRONG DOG TOYS:

Handmade (by Amy Starost) fleece dog toys.
Strong & durable for training or for play.
With or without tennis ball.
Prices range from \$10-\$25 based on size.

As each toy is individually made, they can be custom sized for small dogs to large.
Please contact Amy at: astarost@yahoo.com or 551-485-2595 for more detail.



Sidewinder II by Carefree of Colorado rollout awning for full sized van. 10' canopy, grey & white excellent condition. Asking \$200.00 or best offer.

Contact: Elaine Barone: elaineb.bowow@juno.com

This is a classified section for RKC members provided free of charge. Contact Tilly Grassa (tgcreative@aol.com) if you have an item you'd like to list.

Got Stuff?

Send your stories, news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, tgcreative@aol.com. Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Check the calendar on the last page for submission deadlines. The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.



GROWL

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973-633-5254

Dates to remember:

All membership meetings are held at

NOTE: NEW
LOCATION!

**American Legion Post 450
11 Oak Ave.
Pequannock, NJ 07440 at 8:00 PM
(unless otherwise noted)**

Wednesday, December 9

RKC Holiday Party, 7PM. Location:
Franco's Restaurant, West Caldwell, NJ.

Wednesday, January 13

Program: TBA

RKC Member Meeting, 8PM. Board meeting at 7:15
Location: American Legion Post 450, Pequannock, NJ



GROWL

11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

FIRST CLASS MAIL