

# GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958

NOVEMBER 2015

## THE SAGA OF THE NEWBIE WANNABE

While I had yellow labs consecutively beginning in my early 30s, we never took either dog for lessons. I didn't know of anyone ever going for obedience training. I thought only conformation dogs got professionally trained.

After our second dog passed away and had suffered from hip dysplasia, we took a break from dogs. My husband and I were getting closer to the "senior title" for humans and we expected to travel and wanted to have no dog care responsibility. We did travel but it stopped.

After being retired for 4 years, I realized I hated winter nights. Although my husband was also retired, he became busier than ever and was out working most nights during the long dark days of winter. I realized that I needed a dog. That this dog would be my



Ernie at 11 months

dog and companion and maybe even a travel partner. I chose an Entlebucher Mountain Dog because it was handsome, smaller than the labs, lighter than the labs and still self-cleaning and adventurous.

My life was about to change. Was I really ready for this? I knew nothing about these dogs.

My first connection with Ramapo KC was meeting Amy Starost. I reached out to the national breed club with some questions and

was referred to Amy, the official breed club trainer. This was an internet meeting and I soon learned that she was from NJ and taught classes in Butler. How lucky for me. She asked me to bring my Entle to the Butler training site so she could meet him and me. I met her dog Gustav and now saw what my pup would

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*A spectacular day at the Ramapo KC Show. For more see page 4.*

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM](http://WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM)

# President's Message



Sharon Fremer

Another Harvest Cluster is behind us. Thank you to all our enthusiastic volunteers and committee members for your contributions to two top-notch, successful shows. Our show chairs must have called in some favors, because Mother Nature was generous and gave us beautiful, if somewhat warm, days loaded with sunshine. We had some outstanding dogs with us and the competition

was predictably strong. Tilly and Jack Grassa got fabulous photos both days (some appear here in *The Growl*, many more are on our website). Lorraine Fennemore worked her usual magic with the caterer and made sure we all ate like royalty (I have yet to taste better bacon). Jeffrey Ball oversaw everything in his usual, unflappable manner — even though there were several issues

he had to address with the AKC field rep at his side. Amy Starost's Obedience and Rally rings ran smoothly and like clockwork. I saw lot of happy people up there all day long. Kim Luikert had beautiful (and practical!) trophies for our Group, RBIS and BIS winners. The Education table was well-stocked and ably manned by Rose Ann Tucker and Rose Radel. Melissa Ayer not only stepped up and acted as our Chief Steward, she was also a last-minute replacement Sweeps Judge. Cindy McMillen and her crew ensured ringside hospitality took extra good care of our judges and stewards. I can go on and on. I am so proud to be a member of this club. And proud of the exemplary teamwork we exhibit every October. I know Melissa and Gerrie Oliver will knock it out of the ballpark next year. BIG thanks to everyone!

As Tilly announced in the meeting notice, we will hold our November meeting at the American Legion Post 450, 11 Oak Ave., Pequannock, NJ. Details and directions can be found elsewhere in this issue of *The Growl*. This meeting is a 'test drive' to allow us to see how we like this potential site before we make a final decision about where to hold future meetings. We will have Straws to Paws' Dr. Mary and Debbie back to speak more about canine reproduction. They gave a very informative and interesting presentation in the spring. This one should be all that and more. Please join us on Wednesday, November 11th, particularly because we need your feedback about the site!

Lorraine has reserved the same restaurant as last year, Franco's in Caldwell, for our holiday dinner on December 9th. It's BYOB and BYO dessert. As always, we will hold our annual Yankee Gift Swap. Please let Lorraine know if you plan to be part of the party and if you can bring a dessert..

The NJ Federation of Dog Clubs recently published their annual regional dog show calendar. It includes all point shows in the Northeast area and is very comprehensive. Cost is only \$5 per calendar. Please see/contact me if you'd like to buy one.

A quick note about something that's been prominent in the news recently—the sugar substitute Xylitol. It is safe for humans but can cause severe low blood sugar, seizures, liver failure -- even death -- in dogs. Sugar-free gum is the major culprit, but Xylitol is also used in sugar-free candies, chewable vitamins, even baked goods and peanut butter. The number of dogs reported to have suffered the toxic effects of Xylitol ingestion is steadily rising. Before you purchase sugar-free products, please check the ingredient list. If Xylitol is on it, don't buy it. If, for some reason, you must bring it into your home, please store it somewhere your dogs cannot reach it. Particularly around the upcoming holidays, our animals end up eating foods they normally don't have. Do all you can to ensure Xylitol isn't in any of them.

See you all in Pequannock next week.  
*Sharon*

## Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

### President

Sharon Fremer  
[teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com)

### Vice President

Amy Starost

### Treasurer

Ruth Henningsen

### Recording Secretary

Kim Luikert

### Corresponding Secretary

Tilly Grassa  
[tgcreative@aol.com](mailto: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**

**October 14th 2015 VFW Post 8096**

**Butler, NJ 07405**

Carol Tyler from Tyco Animal Control gave a great presentation to members about what it's like to be an Animal Control Officer.

Sharon Fremer called the meeting to order at 9:40 pm.

**Recording Secretary-** Amy Starost made a motion to accept the September 9th minutes. Fred Hachtel seconded, voted upon and approved.

**Corresponding Secretary-** Tilly Grassa reviewed the AKC items that she had previously emailed.

**Treasurer-** September checking balance \$19,098.54

**Obedience-** classes are going well.

**Point Show-** Jeffrey Ball thanked everyone for their help. Everything seemed to go smoothly. In general numbers are down everywhere. Amy reported that they held a moment of silence in memory of Sue Cone before the start of obedience at the show.

**AKC Delegate-** Next delegate meeting is in Orlando in December. They will be voting

on three board positions with a five person slate.

**NJFDC-** Lobby day coming in December. Look for Facebook notification for dates.

**Meeting Location-** Members suggested that the proposed new meeting location at The Pequannock American Legion located at 11 Oak Ave in Pequannock be given a trial meeting to see what it is like before making final decision.

**Christmas Party-** Franco's in West Caldwell on December 9th. Paris Inn has been reserved for the June awards dinner.

**2016 Match Show-** CHAIR PERSON NEEDED TO RUN. June 4th 2016 tentative date. Lorraine mentioned that the Great Pyrenees Club may be interested in running their match with ours.

**Refreshments for November meeting-** Sharon and Joanne.

Ann Hulsizer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm, seconded by Diane Ammerman. Voted on and approved.

*Respectfully submitted by  
Kim Luikert*

*October 31, 2015*

## **November RKC Meeting at New Location**

The November meeting will be held on November 11, 8PM, board meeting at 7:15 at  
AMERICAN LEGION POST 450

11 Oak Ave..  
Pequannock, NJ

Take Route 23 to the Newark-Pompton Turnpike. Oak St. is off Newark-Pompton Turnpike in the center of Pequannock.

Our program is Part 2 of Straws to Paws:

Straws to Paws, LLC, is a Synbiotics-certified and AKC-recognized canine semen freezing center in Washington, NJ. Their full range of services include all aspects of breeding, from careful ovulation timing of your bitch's cycle, collection of semen for fresh AI, fresh chilled breeding or use of frozen semen. Owners Dr. Mary Stankovics and Debbie Leach joined forces when they both worked for The Seeing Eye in Morristown, NJ. Dr. Mary was the second full-time veterinarian brought aboard by The Seeing Eye, where she developed her interest in canine reproduction. Debbie managed the breeding program for The Seeing Eye in Morristown New Jersey for 13 years, where she handled all aspects of reproductive management of their breeding colony of 90 dogs and a yearly production of 700 puppies.

# Ramapo KC All-Breed Dog Show and Obedience and Rally Show October 10 and 11, 2015





*GCH. Sporting Fields Shameless wins BIS both Sunday and Monday.*



*HIT winner, Kathy Pugh at the Monday show*

# THE SAGA OF THE NEWBIE WANNABE

*from page 1*

look like as an adult. I was so excited to have a local contact who also had several dogs of this breed.

Amy suggested I take my dog to Puppy Kindergarten Class when a new one started and in the meantime I signed up for St. Huberts puppy class while I waited for RKC's next start up. At St. Huberts, half of the class was taken up by having the dogs run in sectioned pen

areas with other puppies. My dog was the focus of two other dogs who chased him. Each week Ernie got a little more used to the other puppies, and finally chased the other dog when it was just one on one. They taught sit, down and stay. They recommended harnesses and sold them there. My puppy had some good social experience.

Before we knew it, it was time for RKC's Puppy Kindergarten Class. Professor JoAnne was at the helm and we realized we were not in St. Hubert's anymore. This place was serious, productive and even gave a test that counted and cultivated competitive handling. I failed miserably in that competitive mode. I didn't know it mattered if my dog got the musical spot before the other dog or that he should push his way in.

Back to Puppy class I went as a re-run. By now I was understanding and practicing, I sure didn't want to be last dog standing again.

The call to practice socialization was rough in the winter but Van Saun Park in Paramus plows its walkways and my Entle and I hit the bricks every other day. We both loved it. We encountered all kinds of other dogs and handlers. We met People with canes, kids on bikes, joggers, bench sitters and people with learning issues who loved my puppy. In the Spring, we met a Bulgarian bag pipe player, geese, and geese protecting young geese, and geese poop and "leave it." We both learned to read approaching dogs and their handlers. Happily, most were polite and well behaved.

My "Ernie" became so used to meeting other people and dogs that class was much easier. We advanced to



*Ernie and Gigi*

the next level of dog training. Ernie "got it" but his handler was and is a slow learner albeit an interested one. I still don't have a competitive nature but I am addicted to classes. Amy convinced me to join the RKC. I am glad I did. After working at the match and point shows, I can now see more clearly why I am walking in squares and why my feet have to go a certain way. I hope my feet

connect soon.

Ernie struts his skills better outside, or maybe his handler is too uptight to let him show off indoors. We are getting there and I am grateful for the tips and corrections.

I am forever grateful for the patience shown by the instructors and the encouragement that we have received. I am astounded at the awards that the instructors and their dogs have won and have nothing but admiration and respect for all. I still don't know the dog world alphabet of titles, but the more I learn the more interested I become and I do know I am slowly gaining confidence in my handling which will catch up to Ernie's skills eventually.

Finally, as a newbie, I have been attending the RKC meetings. Whoa, so much knowledge of everything dog in one room is amazing to me. I'm the person sitting in the back saying nothing and feeling humble in comparison. I am enjoying learning and listening to the speakers. I wish I had known of this dog world when I was half my current age but at least, thanks to Amy, Elaine, Ruth, Jo Ann and Anne I am encouraged as I present them a challenge of making me a good handler. These members and obedience instructors are a treasure and I thank them for their donated hours but also expense incurred by travel. As a someday graduate, I am determined to reach a competition level of at least basic and, in the future, I hope to teach Ernie the dog world alphabet. Watch out Instructors, I am coming to Rally!

*Submitted by Sue Leonard*

## 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

Nov. 17

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

Nov. 17

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 1

Oct. 7, 21, 28

Nov. 4

#### Session 2

Nov. 18

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

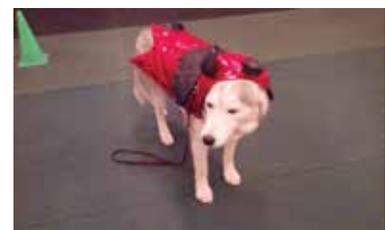
Class registration form available on the website:

[ramapokennelclub.com/RKCClasses](http://ramapokennelclub.com/RKCClasses)

## Costume Parade at Rally Class



*Daisy as Spagetti and Meatballs*



*Mickey the Devil*

## BRAGS

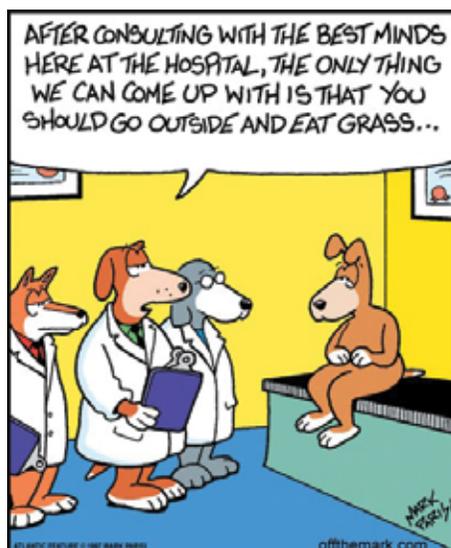


**"Cha Cha", Cabinridge Silvercreek Surf Side Six**, shown above, completed her Junior Hunter in 4 straight trials and her Working Dog Titles at 17 months old. Cha Cha is an excellent example of the versatility of the Chesapeake Bay retriever. She just came off her NSS going Reserve Winners Bitch from the 12-18 class and went Best In Sweeps at Morris & Essex.

Owner, Joanne Silver  
Handler, Bobby Baldwin

**U-CDX Siberlink's Hunter at Two Rivers CDX, CDX-C, RE,THD,CGCA** owned by Elaine Barone and Ruth Henningsen finished his CDX-C title on 9/13/15 with a score of 197 1-2. He went on to earn his first UD-C leg with a 194 and first place.

Not to be ignored his buddy Mickey BN,RA,THD,CGCA earned his 2nd Rally Excellent leg with a 2nd place at Palisades KC on 10/9/15. Mickey is owned by Elaine Barone & Ruth Henningsen and was handled by Ruth.



## 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 [lorrfen@optonline.net](mailto:lorrfen@optonline.net)

862-251-2897 or at the next meeting



# Items for Sale

**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](mailto:elaineb.bowow@juno.com)

**Happy Legs Stacking Blocks System**

Large box (36" x 16") with blocks. Lightly used. \$100 or best offer

**Metro Locking Tack Box**

Lightly used. \$40 or best offer

Email Sharon Fremer: [teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com)

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

**Free:** Receiver collar and transmitter for an electronic dog fence...someone would only need to purchase 18 gauge coated wire.

Email Anne Hulsizer: [rallydog@optonline.com](mailto:rallydog@optonline.com)

## Got Stuff?

Send your news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, [tgcreative@aol.com](mailto: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:

**Wednesday, November 11**

RKC Member Meeting, 8PM. Board meeting at 7:15

Program: Straws to Paws — canine reproduction

**Location:** American Legion Post 450,  
Pequannock, NJ

**Wednesday, December 9**

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



11 Pershing Avenue  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**