



Ramapo Kennel Club GROWL

JANUARY 2009

1958-2009

OUR POINT SHOWS

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As most of you know, we have been having problems with the American Kennel Club regarding our point shows. The AKC has determined that our October Shows, which are held outdoor/indoors at the Sussex County Fairgrounds, have temperatures that they claim are too cold and stressful for the dogs. We have argued with them for almost two years about this and they are now taking the position that we must move our shows indoors

this year. We will discuss this issue further at our next meeting, but to help everyone understand, Rose Radel has prepared a Perspective on the matter.

At the January meeting, we will be sharing the Boards thought and position on all of this. We will absolutely need every member's assistance, even if you don't live in the immediate area, you can help. After the meeting, we will share more information with you, and how you can help.

Jeffrey

By Rose Radel PERSPECTIVES

What does a club do when its site status is changed after half a century! Ramapo Kennel Club, established in 1958, has held point shows outdoors or outdoors/indoors since its inception. We currently

have an exceptional outdoor site with limited indoor space at Sussex County Fairgrounds in New Jersey.

In recent years, two neighboring clubs have lost their sites and we agreed to share ours to form a four-day cluster. One club decided to apply for a fifth day, which triggered an AKC site inspection. We were told by a senior field representative that our site was exceptional for four days but not five. We were approved for the outdoor/indoor shows for four days with the fifth day indoors only. It was anticipated that additional buildings would be erected which has not occurred. We now have only four shows.

(Continued on page 3)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Joy Messinger is in England caring for her sister, who is recovering from cancer surgery and treatment. Yesterday she got a call, letting her know that Bob Messinger had passed away. He has been at a VA home for the past year or so, since his Parkinson's and suspected Alzheimer's made him more than Joy could care. He had been sleeping most of the time lately and then developed the symptoms associated with liver failure. There was nothing that the hospital staff could do but keep him comfortable, and apparently he had a peaceful passing.

We don't know anything about arrangements, sorry. Joy will be home a week from tomorrow, and I know she would appreciate notes of support and caring. Her address is:

Joy Graeme Messinger

2 Orchard St.

Verona, NJ 07044

NEW MEMBER APPLICANT

Anne Hulsizer

GROWL

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RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GROWL

Our status has been formally changed to indoor only. Space would necessitate a substantial reduction in entries. We could not offer obedience or rally. We have been advised the possibility of lower temperatures would be a concern for the health and welfare of dogs. Our on-site veterinarian completed a comprehensive and detailed report including official temperature studies. She has excellent credentials and has had extensive experience as an on-site veterinarian at numerous AKC shows. Her findings were that contrary to some summer shows, our mid-October outdoor temperatures are completely safe, if not preferable, for the health of dogs.

AKC contends that three AKC field representatives found the site unsuitable for the dates of our shows. One inspection was made in December with snow on the ground. Another rep took a car temperature reading of 33 degrees at the opening of the show which we presumed was 6 a.m. AKC field representatives are not veterinarians. We have asked for copies of the reps' reports which AKC will not share. We have asked for copies of AKC's weather reports to compare to ours but they have not been provided to date.

We were granted a conference call with AKC Executives. Their suggested recommendations are not workable solutions. They may permit outdoor space for the specialties if those clubs provide letters stating they prefer the outdoor rings. Obedience and rally would need to be in tents completely enclosed with side panels and heated with propane blowers. Obedience people would not enter under these conditions. Winds often cause side panels to flap and could spook a dog. We all know the long-term performance impact that can incur.

Since our club has had nine years and 13 successful shows at this site with ideal weather, it's reasonable to assume that we can anticipate pleasant fall weather conditions to continue.

Should inclement weather occur, as it does occasionally at any time of year, groups can be moved indoors. Few outdoor shows have that advantage. The Sussex County Fairgrounds is a large modern facility with hook-ups for approximately 200 motor homes and indoor restrooms with shower facilities.

This spacious site offers unlimited parking, spectator space for family picnics, concessions, public education programs, etc. An interesting fact is that in 2001, Ramapo was considered a regional qualifying show for the National Dog Championship to be held outdoors at this very site. Ace Awards were presented outdoors at the Sussex County Fairgrounds at one of our shows.

The proposed AKC solutions are not workable. For the first time in its 50 year history, Ramapo Kennel Club may not be able to hold its shows. This would not benefit our club, AKC, all our exhibitors, dogs or the sport. It would also substantially impact on the income of our concessions, this semi-rural community and surrounding municipalities. Isn't the fact that AKC Member Clubs hold events that distinguish us from most of the other registries. Why is AKC making it difficult for a group of dedicated, hard working volunteers from accomplishing an important purpose for which clubs exist. This AKC action does not support its mission statement. From our perspective, it lacks logic from every standpoint.

We would welcome any suggestions from the delegate body to help us hold our point shows with the outdoor/indoor status we have maintained for decades.

BRAGS By Elaine Barone

Olympus Sea Cruise at Sno-Arch CD, RE, CGC "NEMO"
owned by Ruth Henningsen and co/owned by Elaine Barone

The All Star Performance dog Association held its 6 tournament in August 2008. The tournament is a three day event which brings together many of the top competitors from across the USA and Canada. To be able to enter any competition (Obedience, Rally, Agility) the dog must meet certain criteria. For instance, to enter Novice Obedience you must have 3 scores averaging 190 or higher and must have completed a CD. Each dog competes 3 times in 2 days in the classes in which he is entered.

Nemo was eligible to enter both Novice Obedience and Rally Advanced. It is extraordinary to be able to compete at such a great event.

In Rally Advanced Nemo placed 1st.

In Novice Obedience Nemo tied for 12th place out of 31 competing teams.

The last week of October we attended the Siberian Husky Club of American National Specialty. Nemo completed his Rally Excellent title. At the banquet we were presented with the 2007 Siberian Husky Club of America Rally Novice Award. He

was the top ranked Siberian Husky in 2007 in Rally Novice A & B combined.

For the year 2007 Front & Finish rankings for Siberian Huskies.

In the Working Group Top 10 for Rally Novice A & B combined
Nemo is ranked 8th

Rankings for Siberian Huskies

Rally Novice B by placement: Nemo is ranked # 1

Novice B Obedience ranking by placement: Nemo is ranked # 2

Novice B Obedience ranking by Score: Nemo is ranked # 3

Novice A & B Obedience ranking by score: Nemo is ranked # 4

Needless to say I am extremely proud of Nemo and our accomplishments in 2007—and look forward to our future competitions as we move forward into Open and Utility.

SIBERLINKS HUNTER AT TWO RIVERS Owned by Elaine Barone, co/owned
I & L Linker, Ruth Henningsen

For the year 2007 for Siberian Huskies:

Rally Novice B rankings by placement
Hunter is ranked 4th

Rally Novice A & B rankings by placement
Hunter is ranked 4th

TWO RIVERS GOLD STRIKE UD, RE
Bred & Owned by Elaine Barone and co-
owned, co-bred by Ruth Henningsen

Utility A & Utility B Obedience Rankings
by Placement for Siberian Huskies

Striker is ranked **#1** Siberian Husky

Front & Finish Delaney Ratings
representing performances in Open & Utility
A & B inclusive from 1/07 – 12/07 for
Siberian Huskies

Striker is ranked 7th

All Star Performance Dog Association Aug
2008
Siberlink's Hunter at Two Rivers met the
requirements to enter Novice Obedience and
Rally Novice.
He placed 3rd in Rally Novice

At the Siberian Husky Club of America
National Specialty both Striker and Hunter
competed in several classes and did very
well.

Two Rivers Gold Strike UD, RE

Open B 3rd
Wild Card Utility 1st
Veteran 1st

Siberlink's Hunter At Two Rivers CD,RN

Hunter earned his first leg in Rally Excellent
and place 4th with a score of 99.

Hunter and Nemo competed in Rally Relay
and they placed 3rd as a team.

Hunter earned his first leg in Open A and a
first place with a score of 194
He also competed in Wild Card Open and
took a 1st place with a score of 197.5.

Hunter is a delight to own and show and I
look forward to continuing his open
competition and working toward Utility title.
I know his owners are very proud!

***AKC WELCOMES IRISH RED AND
WHITE SETTER, PYRENEAN
SHEPHERD AND NORWEGIAN
BUHUND***

***– Three Breeds Gain Full AKC
Recognition –***

New York, NY – The American Kennel
Club® is pleased to welcome the Irish Red
and White Setter, the Pyrenean Shepherd
and the Norwegian Buhund as the 159th,
160th, and the 161st AKC® registered breeds.
The Irish Red and White Setter will join the
Sporting Group while both the Pyrenean
Shepherd and the Norwegian Buhund will
join the Herding Group. They will be
eligible for full AKC registration and
competition in their respective groups at
conformation shows held on and after
January 1, 2009.

The history of the **Irish Red and White
Setter** is as mysterious as the myths and
legends of the country of origin. Its original
purpose was as a versatile hunting
companion, providing food for the table,
both fur and feather. The Irish Red and

White Setter Association was formed in America in 1997 to preserve the purebred Irish Red and White Setter and to maintain the heritage and unique qualities of the breed as a multi-talented gun dog. As a companion, they are loving, loyal and best suited for a very active family.

The **Pyrenean Shepherd** or "Pyr Shep" has herded sheep in the Pyrenees Mountains of Southern France for centuries. The breed comes in two coat types – Rough-Faced and Smooth-Faced. It first distinguished itself outside its native mountains during its service to French troops during World War I. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Pyr Sheps gave their lives for the cause as couriers, search and rescue dogs finding injured soldiers after battles, and accompanying guards on their rounds.

Some Pyr Sheps came to North America in the 19th century accompanying flocks of imported sheep. Pyr Shep fanciers imported breeding stock in the 1970's and 80's, establishing the foundation for the breed in America today. Working closely with the French parent club, U.S. fanciers founded the Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America in 1987 with the goal of protecting and preserving Pyrenean Shepherds. Although tentative with strangers, the Pyrenean Shepherd has a very lively, cheerful disposition, and is a superb canine athlete who excels at agility and other dog sports.

The **Norwegian Buhund** belongs to a large class of dogs called the Spitz type. The breed as we know it today, with its prick ears and curled tail, was nurtured in the rainy western coastlands of Norway where they herded sheep, guarded farms and

hunted bear and wolf. Besides working ability, Buhunds are trained to aid the hearing impaired, perform some types of police work, and perform well in obedience and agility trials. In fact, the Buhund is considered by many to be the most trainable of the Spitz breeds due to their innate desire to please and quick aptitude to learn. Today they work with livestock, guard home and family and make wonderful companions for active people or families.

Breeds that wish to begin the road to full AKC recognition must be recorded with an accepted registry. The AKC Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) is the AKC's recording service for purebred breeds that are not yet eligible for AKC registration. After a breed had been in FSS the recognition process begins with a written request to compete in the Miscellaneous Class from the National Breed Club. While there is no established timetable for adding new breeds, dogs typically compete in the Miscellaneous Class for one to three years. More information on the process can be found at the AKC's [website](#).

For more information about the Irish Red and White Setter, the Pyrenean Shepherd and the Norwegian Buhund, visit the American Kennel Club website at www.akc.org. For high resolution photos email communications@akc.org

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
NEW JERSEY STATE
LEGISLATION

The following was shared with us by
Priscilla Gabosch
President of the NJFDC
This report was from December 2008

A1577 identical bill to S979 (which see).

A1591 prohibits certain breeding and sales practices; requires persons selling cats or dogs to provide certain information; and provides penalties. Primary Sponsor is Joan Voss. Last year this bill was A3401; which was introduced in July 2006 and never came out of committee. It was then pre-filed for introduction on January 8, 2008 at which time it was referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. It defines a breeder as one who offers for sale more than 5 cats or dogs per year. No one may sell more than 25 cats or dogs per year for use as pets. The bill contains requirements for maintenance of your facility. The fines for violations are very high.

A1603 revises the vicious and potentially dangerous dog law. It is designated Congo's Law; Congo is the German Shepherd Dog in Princeton who bit the gardener when the dog thought his mistress was being attacked. Primary Sponsors are Patrick Diegan, Richard Merkt, and Declan O'Scanlon. Last year's bills were A4597 and S3010. The bill defines "provoked" and "unprovoked." Under the bill, the court has an alternative to destroying the dog if the public is protected by the alternative.

A1951 identical bill to S1275 (which see). This bill was sponsored by Neil Cohen (still

listed as a Primary Sponsor) and Denise Coyle. The history is

1/28/2008 Introduced, Referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

2/25/2008 Reported out of Assembly Committee, 2nd Reading

5/19/2008 Passed by the Assembly (77-3-0)

5/19/2008 Received in the Senate, Referred to Senate Commerce Committee

6/19/2008 Reported from Senate Committee, 2nd Reading (see S1275)

A2536 identical bill to S1396 (which see).

A2668 requires veterinarians to report animal cruelty if they know or have reasonable cause to know that an animal has been subjected to animal cruelty. It also requires the police to investigate possible associated domestic violence and child abuse. Anyone who fails to make a report is liable to a civil penalty of \$250.00. The Primary Sponsor is Anthony Chiappone and the Co-sponsor is Pamela Lampitt. It was introduced May 12 and was referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

AR154 This Assembly Resolution endorses the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen program and supports its effort to promote responsible dog ownership. It is sponsored by Nelson Albano and Matthew Milam. It was introduced October 6 and was referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. The last session Resolution Number was AR114. The identical bill in the Senate is SR90.

S971 increases sterilization and animal control programs and establishes a dog license surcharge. Primary sponsor is Senator Jeff Van Drew. Last session's bill was A3542. This year's bill was introduced in January and was referred to the Senate Economic Growth Committee. This is the bill that requires dogs and cats to be spayed before being reclaimed from a pound or shelter unless the owner can claim an exemption. Senator Van Drew recognizes that the exemptions are either improbable (proof that the dog has been shown within the last year) or impossible (that the dog is registered as a show dog or that the owner is a professional licensed AKC breeder) and will be changing the wording. As the bill is written the surcharge only applies to dog licenses, but will be used to fund spaying and neutering of dogs and cats.

Dave Van Vorst of the Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club lives in Sen. Van Drew's territory and coordinated a conference call meeting in April with the Senator, the Federation and representatives from some state offices to discuss revisions. Present were the Senator, **Dave Van Vorst**, **Laureen Camisi** (NJFDC Delegate of Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club), **Nikki Bermea** (Bulldog Club of Philadelphia, who lives in Van Drew's territory and had spoken with him in getting him to withdraw a bill a couple of years ago), **Barbara Wicklund** (President Berkshire Valley Basset Club, NJFDC's delegate to the Governor's Domestic Animal Council), and **Priscilla Gabosch**, President of NJFDC.

Two areas of the bill are paramount to Sen. Van Drew in any revision: targeting

irresponsible owners and funding. The Delegates proposed that when an individual reclaims an animal, they must show proof of residence. They further proposed that the funding come from those reclaiming an animal as they are the ones using the service and put forth a sliding scale of charges.

Sen. Van Drew accepted our proposed scale of surcharges, but said it would not cover the funding he's looking for. His proposed \$7 surcharge to dog licenses was calculated using the current number of dog licenses. After discussion he indicated he intended to withdraw the bill and work with Asm. Linda Greenstein, who had introduced similar legislation in the last session. He will keep us in the loop as he goes forward.

S979 requires bittering agent to be added to certain engine coolants and antifreeze to render it unpalatable. Primary sponsors are Jeff Van Drew and Fred Madden. It was introduced in January 2008 and referred to the Senate Economic Growth Committee. There is an identical bill in the Assembly. A1577, sponsored by Neil Cohen, Linda Stender and Joan Voss; it was pre-filed for introduction on January 8, 2008 at which time it was referred to the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee. Last session the bill was A319. Dogs have been lost when antifreeze has been ingested and we should all support this bill.

S1275 provides that: 1) an insurer shall not deny, cancel, or non-renew a homeowners insurance policy solely on the basis of the type or specific breed of dog harbored upon the insured property; 2) notwithstanding this prohibition, an insurer may offer or issue a policy which contains an exclusion against covering any liability for a dog, or on the

basis of the type or specific breed of dog, harbored upon the insured property; and 3) whenever an insurer offers or issues a policy, or rider, endorsement, or other amendment to the policy, which includes liability or other coverage for a dog, nothing within the bill shall prohibit the use of underwriting guidelines, risk classifications, or other rules of any rating-system which establish rates and premiums for that coverage on the basis of the type or specific breed of dog harbored upon the property.

Primary Sponsor Jeff Van Drew introduced the bill on Feb 2. The bill is identical to A1951 which was passed by the Assembly on May 19. The Senate bill was passed and reported from the Senate Economic Growth Committee, 2nd reading on June 19. The roll call was 4 voting yes (Raymond Cardinale, Nia Gill, Nicholas Scutari, Robert Singer) and 1 not voting (Raymond Lesniak). The next step would be for the Senate to vote on it and then on to the Governor's signature.

S1396 clarifies failure to provide minimum care to an animal constitutes animal cruelty. Primary sponsor is Senator Jeff Van Drew. There is an identical bill in the Assembly. A2536, sponsored by Reed Gusciora, the Deputy Majority Leader. The Senate bill was introduced on March 3 and referred to the Senate Economic Growth Committee. Minimum care is defined with regard to food, access to water, access to an enclosure with adequate bedding to protect against cold and dampness, protection from extreme weather conditions, veterinary care, and access to a clean and adequate exercise area.

SR90 This Senate Resolution endorses the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen

program and supports its effort to promote responsible dog ownership. It is sponsored by Jeff Van Drew. It was introduced October 6 and was referred to the Senate Economic Growth Committee. The last session Resolution Number was AR114. The identical bill in the Assembly is AR154.

LOCAL LEGISLATION

Freehold – On Oct 28, the Borough Council enacted a law which restricts the number of animals in one residence to five dogs and/or cats over the age of 2 months in any combination in or upon any residential or commercial property.

AKC INVITE

AKC is pleased to invite you to two special parties on Sunday, February 8, 2009.

First, join us for a charity brunch at the annual Barkfest at Bonhams from 10 am to 12 noon at Bonhams, 580 Madison Avenue at East 57th Street. Preview this year's auction items including dog paintings, sculptures, porcelains, antique collars and more. Admission is a \$50 donation to the AKC Humane Fund with reservation or \$60 at the door. RSVP for the Barkfest at 212-696-8277.

Followed by this year's Open House at the American Kennel Club, commemorating our 125th Anniversary and the debut of the AKC Humane Fund Wall of Honor. The Open House takes place from 12 noon to 4 pm at 260 Madison Avenue. RSVP to 212-696-8300.

Sincerely,

Ronald H. Menaker and Dennis B. Sprung

DATES TO REMEMBER

All membership meetings are held at the

VFH Hall

45 Plymouth Street

Fairfield, New Jersey 07004-1615

8:00 p.m.

January 14 th	Membership Meeting
February 11 th	Membership Meeting
March 11 th	Membership Meeting
April 8 th	Membership Meeting

IMPORTANT NOTE: We are always looking for Guest speakers. If you have any ideas or better yet know of someone, please speak to Joanne Silver at the next meeting or call her at (201) 891-5090.

Ramapo Kennel Club GROWL
111 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

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