



Central New England Brittany Club Newsletter February 2015 Volume 11, Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting
February 27, 2015 -
7:00 PM

Paul Gardner's Home

Independent Specialty Show
Evening of March 13, 2015
Big E, West Springfield, MA

Supported Entry Show
March 15, 2015 with NESGA
Big E, West Springfield, MA

Hunt Tests
April 4 & 5, 2015

Swift River Sportsman's Club,
Belchertown, MA

Board Meeting
May 8, 2015 -
7:00 PM

Joan Bever's Home

Spring Field Trial
May 30 & 31, 2015
Flaherty WMA,
E. Windsor, CT

Summer Training
May thru early September New
Braintree, MA

Fun Day
June 7, 2015
NORCO

Designated Specialty Show
June 18, 2015
Cumberland, ME

Officers

President Joan Bevers
Secretary Dottie Boyatzi
Vice President Dennis Duguay
Treasurer Peggy Aguiar

Board

Aaron Crown Paul Gardner
Kim Hatton Linda McCartney-Roy
Jean Miller Doug Phillips
Paul Shirley

Advisory Board

David Phillips Jill Talevi

President's Message

It's amazing that the older I get, the faster the years spin around. A while ago, I was looking forward to a two week long Christmas vacation with so many plans. Well, that vacation is well behind me and the plans made are still plans to be tackled.

On December 7th, many members gathered for our annual Member's Day. As always, it was a day filled with fun for both the handlers and their canine friends as they entered the field for our mock field trial. Not everyone wins but all did have a great time.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our delicious meal. What a variety of food to choose from. The hot chili was a hit with everyone, which we all partook of prior to the meal. Perfect for a chilly December day.

A general meeting was held and a vote taken that we up our Membership dues to \$35.00. The motion passed. Thanks to everyone for helping to get our club back on track financially. Because of unplanned expenses, and the rise in everything, we have to work hard to recoup our losses and thankfully, we are doing just that.

We have several activities in the new year that we hope you will all be a part of. Please mark your calendar for the following:

Specialty on March 13th in West Springfield
Hunt Tests on April 4-5 in Belchertown
Field Trial on May 30-31 at Flaherty WMA
Fun Day on June 7th at Norco and
Summer Specialty on June 18th in Maine.

Our Fun Day has a new venue. We will hold our activities at Norco in Spencer. Come join in either Show Handling Classes, Agility run throughs, Mock Field Trial, Skeet Shooting (Bring your own guns and ammo) and a brief General Meeting. Remember that on that day, the winner of the Adult Stake will take home the David Phillips Trophy for the year.

So you see, our club doesn't stand still, thanks to the dedicated members who work tirelessly to make sure that the activities are planned and executed to perfection. Thanks also to the many of you who are always there, working behind the scenes.

I would love to see those of you who haven't participated in our activities come to one or all of all planned events. You don't have to participate but it would be such a boost to those who will be competing with their dogs.

It is another year and I strongly encourage all of us to continue to work together to make sure that our club remains alive and vibrant.

Thank you all,

Joan Bevers



The ABC's of Agility – Part II

By Kim Hatton

In the July 2014 issue of the CNEBC newsletter, I gave the analogy of agility being similar to creating a cake – you must have the ingredients, follow the recipe's instructions, and then comes the icing on top. In Part I, I covered the “icing” in this issue I will cover the “ingredients” and hopefully answer the question, “Is Agility the Right Sport for Me and My Dog?” So here goes.....

First and foremost, let's discuss your DOG. Is your dog fit? Is his/her conformation such that he/she has fluid movement? Is balanced? If your dog has either straight shoulders, bad elbows/hips/patella – you are going to end up with injuries in the sport of agility. **Agility is hard on a dog's body. That is why at many well attended trials you will find a chiropractor and person skilled in massage on site.** Many of the dogs you see competing every weekend, have scheduled monthly adjustments, underwater treadmill workouts and core conditioning to keep them in tip top shape to avoid injury. **An instructor of mine (who runs Border Collies) once commented to me that she didn't understand why more people didn't choose Brittanys** – their size, drive, energy and sense of fun is perfect for the sport. And do the dogs love agility? **Most do. What dog wouldn't like an excuse to play with their human? The key thing is “attention” and many instructors start a pup out at an early age with clicker training.** That is not to say that a mature dog that is biddable would not do well in agility. As one trainer told me, to be successful in agility you need to DASH: Your dog must have the DESIRE to work and enjoy the sport, You must train for ACURACY and SPEED, and then take your dog to many different venues and HABITATS and be able to duplicate that same desire, accuracy and speed.

Ok, that is your partner – **now how about YOU? You are a very important “ingredient”.** So you say you are no athlete...Did you know that I have friends who are overweight running agility? And a local instructor who is a paraplegic also competes. (Did you know that there is a World competition known as ParaAgility?) You say you are too old? Did you know that I have friends in their 70's competing? **Have you ever seen how complicated some agility courses are? What better way to keep that aging brain (and ALL of our brains are aging!) in tip top shape than by putting its memory and strategy skills to work!** Come watch an agility trial – you will see the gamut, from athletic folks who are swift as all get-out to arthritic folks who can distance handle their dogs with finesse. For those of you with grouchy knees (as I have), in recent years most trials have moved indoors. No more uneven, need-mowing, slippery, ankle turning outdoor courses. Now they are mostly indoors on a forgiving (cushioned matting or Astroturf infused with rubber balls), level surface **where you don't have to worry about the weather. But I must say there is not much that beats the fair-like atmosphere of an outdoor trial on a sunny, cool Autumn day!**

And of course there is a CO\$T for all this fun. Like most things there is the expense of fuel. Are there training facilities close to you? Where are trials held in your area? I frequently travel 15- 45 min. to training classes; longer for seminars and agility trials (usually 1-2+ hours). Instruction can run from \$25/hr for group lessons (usually done in six week sessions) or around \$90/hr for private lessons. Entry fees at AKC trials in New England are in the ball park of \$38-\$45 for two classes (Standard and Jumpers With Weaves), \$57-\$65 if you also do either FAST or T2B in a day. Quite frankly I cringe to think of what I have spent over the years if I were to add it all up, but then I figure some folks have even more costly habits than my agility habit and they aren't nearly as happy as I am going to trials, running my Britts and visiting with my agile friends!

Remember: “We don't stop playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing!”

~ George Bernard Shaw

Next time we'll talk about the “recipe” that takes these “ingredients” and whip up a little something to put the “icing” on top!

Update on Libby's progress toward her MACH: She now has with 7 double Q's and 579 speed points~

GCH CH Triumphant Absolute Liberty of Kinship JH MX MXJ MJB OF T2B VDE

****Correction to Part I – a MACH consists of 20 double Q's and 750 speed points (not 700).**

Attention Club Members and extended family

ATTENTION ALL CRAFTERS! Do you have a special item that you craft? Small wood-work items, stationary, embroidery, knitted/woven/sewn items? I am putting together a Massachusetts state basket to be raffled off at the 2015 ABC Summer Specialty. I would prefer to have items made by Brittany owners from the state of MA – and will create a special tag for each item stating something about that person and their Britts. The CMBC (who is the host of the 2015 ABC Summer Specialty) is hoping to have a basket donated for each state represented by participants at this event. If you would like to contribute an item for the Massachusetts basket, please contact me by May 1st. Thank you. Kim Hatton ~ kinship.farm@verizon.net

Bells

Dog bells are the subject of this newsletter article and how or why we choose one on a given day will be the subject.

I choose bells according to where I am hunting and what species I will mostly encounter. Now when I am hunting a public Pheasant site such as Sharps' farm I will go for my older and louder square bell. This bell style is a traditional one, especially in the Midwest. It is also good to alert other non-party hunters of my dog and location in the thick brush for safety issues. The birds are likely not to be spooked by it's loud deeper sound. I have also used this style bell in some walking trials to differentiate from my bracemates' bell. In many field trials, especially out towards the mid-west bells are not used by many competitors. When I am in the thick north woods chasing Woodcock I have a Flewelling bell made up in Maine that I use. This has a deeper tone then all my other bells and seems to carry in the thickets best of all. It also is my Wild bird trial bell of choice. I also have a Swiss bell, which I call tinnier and not so loud. This bell in particular I use later in the season once the leaves are down and the woods are louder. It seems that the birds, especially the Grouse are spookier too. This bell is not as obtrusive and gets the locating job done for me as far as that goes. I also use bells of this sort in some of my pocket covers that I run through on short notice. When training for some of the pups I am helping bring along I have little tinker bells. These are location bells only and are good for a pup to get used to that noise around their neck. It is always good to have different sounding bells available, your hunting partners' dog may have one around his dog that sounds the same as yours. If you're competing you want to be sure yours sounds different for both you and the judges. Bells of all sorts can be bought at Lion Country or Gun Dog Supply. Just a note that beeper collars although legal for hunting in most states are not allowed in AKC competitions. These bells become time honored tools of birddogging, some that I have are older than me and have sediment of past dogs and hunts attached to them. There is nothing I like more than hearing one jingling in a Alder swamp on a cool Autumn day. A.H.

CNEBC Members Day Results—December 7, 2014

Juvenile Stale

1. Myles — CH Kinship's Triumphant Pursuit Kim Hatton
2. Bustah Rick Stratton
3. Meg — Horizon's A Wrinkle In Time JH Mark Miller



Adult Stale

1. Buck's Scrambler Sachem Scout—Stephen Penta
2. Ellie May Paul Shirley
3. Libby – GCH CH Triumphant Absolute Liberty of Kinship JH MX MXJ MJB OF T2B VDE Kim Hatton
4. Libby—Little Liberty Delight Aaron Crown



CNEBC Members Day Results—December 7, 2014

Dog and Handler Award

Kim Hatton and Libby – GCH CH Triumphant Absolute Liberty of Kinship JH MX MXJ MJB OF T2B VDE



CNEBC Members Day—December 7, 2014



Member Brags

New Champion—11/23/2014

Ch. Shady Brook's I Dreamed A Dream" "Cosette"

Dam: GCH Shady Brook's Wish Upon A Star

Sire: GCH Tonan-Hope's R U Kiddin' ME

Thanks to my dear friends, Linda McCartney-Roy and Peggy Aguiar who encouraged me to hire a Professional Handler to bring Cosette into the ring for her final major win. Because of them, Joyce Coccia was hired and my beautiful Cosette came home a Champion. Joyce did a spectacular job!

Thanks so much to all of my friends who supported me, knowing I wasn't able to complete Cosette's Bred by Championship. Thanks also for your joyous cheer when she won.

Love to all,

Joan



Congratulations to CNEBC member Linda McCartney-Roy and her boy Beckett "GCH Triumphant's As Good As It Gets JH" for winning Best of Breed and Best Bred by Exhibitor and then proceeding to take a Bred By Exhibitor Group Fourth at the Eukanuba Dog Show in December 2014. Beckett also received First Award of Merit at Westminster on February 17th!

Beckett is out of BIS BISS GCH Triumphant's Absolute JH and CH Millette Mich MT Magic Charm.



Member Brags



Jaci's I Want Proof, 8 months old liver girl, won a 4 point major. Owned by Jane Bjork and Art Hembrough.

Derry "Horizons Prince Charming" took BOB at the Merrimack Valley Kennel Club all breed dog show on Sunday January 4th and earned his first points in the ring. This was only his 3rd time in the ring. Bred by Lisa Tailby who also showed him on Sunday in the Sporting group. Derry took BOB while handled by a Jr. Handler (sorry her name escapes me). Owned by: Bill Dube & Nikki Marvel



Congratulations to Jean and Mark Miller for finishing the Junior Hunter titles on both Petey and Meg!

CH Horizon's Straight On Til Morning JH (Petey)

By Ch Canipat's As You Like It - GCH Shady Brook's Measure For Measure.

Horizon's A Wrinkle In Time JH (Meg)

By Ch Mustang's Sterling Edition SH - GCH Shady Brook's Measure For Measure

Member Brags

News for the balance of 2014 from Kinship Farm:

4/5 CNEBC Hunt Test – Libby Q (1st leg of her JHA)

4/7 QQ #5 for Libby

4/17 NNEBC Specialty: Libby – Select; Myles – Best In Sweeps

4/19 NNEBC Field Trial – Libby 3rd place Amateur Walking Hunting Dog stake

4/26 TGSC Hunt Test – **Libby Q (2nd leg of her JHA) “perfect ten” score!**

6/1 CNEBC Fun Day: Libby – 2nd in Adult stake; Myles – 2nd in Juvenile stake

6/21 CMBC Specialty: Libby – Select; Myles – Best In Sweeps, WD/BW (4 point major), BBE Group 2

6/28 Hobomock Kennel Club: Libby – BOS; Myles – WD/BW (1 point)

6/29 Wampanoag Kennel Club: Libby – BOS; Myles – WD/BW (1 point), BBE Group 3

8/9 and 8/10 HVBC Specialty & Supported entry: Libby – Select (2x) completed her Bronze Level GCH! (she now will have a break from showing until she has achieved her agility MACH); Myles – BBE 1st place (3x), BOS in Sweeps

9/13 South Shore Kennel Club: Myles – WD/BW (2 points)

10/4 TGSC/PANE Hunt Test double-header: Libby – **2 Q's (1 counted toward her JHA)**

11/9 QQ #6 for Libby

11/22 South Windsor Kennel Club: Myles – WD/BW (4 point major) New CHAMPION!

11/23 QQ #7 for Libby

12/7 CNEBC Members' Day: Libby – 3rd place Adult stake and Dog/Handler Award; Myles – 1st place Juvenile stake

The Seal

For the newsletter I thought I would share a story this winter season of a little trip I took to the saltmarsh years ago a few seasons ago, Duke and were jump shooting the creeks and pass shooting a inlet for ducks. There was a lot of ice in the water with ice chunks everywhere. The sun was just coming out behind the clouds warming things up. A big ice chunk was in front of our make shift blind. Out the water a harbor seal stuck his nose and head say ten yards away, he was watching us. He then must have figured we were of no harm to him. He then climbed up on ice chunk and got warm in the sun. Him and my dog watching each other for thirty minutes or so. Finally with him going to slept, we snuck away leaving him be. That day we did not bag anything, but a smile. I also want to say thank for all the well wishes this past year and hope to see some of you back in field of the coming year. Arthur Hembrough

In Memorium



Nathan New Penny of Kinship MX MXJ OF AXP MJP2 MJPB OFP CGC
(03/20/00 - 08/31/14)

It is with great sadness that I must tell you that Nate now waits at The Rainbow Bridge for me. He bravely endured his health issues of collapsing tracheal rings (diagnosed in 2012), laryngeal paralysis and most recently necrolytic migratory erythema. The last three months have been hard. We did our best for Nate and he, in turn, did his best. Here are a few vignettes of my funny boy - part of what made him who he was...Nuclear Nate, Nate-the Great, Nater Potater, Natie....

* kayaking down the Saco standing with his hind feet in the cockpit and his front feet on the deck of the kayak "scouting"

* hooking his paws over the back of the backseat, leaning forward, because he wanted to be the first one at Burrage WMA and I'm sure he felt this got us there faster!

* "rooster tailing" at Burrage - running across the abandoned cranberry bogs that were covered by 6" of water - he loved the spray of water he kicked up and the sound!

* camping in the rooftop tent or in the pop up - exploring the backwoods of the Northwestern tree plantations of Maine or the rocky coast of Hermit Island - he loved adventure.

* his notorious sweet tooth - which on one camping trip found him leading the children, like a Pied Piper, to where all the ripe huckleberry bushes were. (He also knew how to pick our blackberries, at home, w/o getting stuck by the spines).

* his different "voices" to call me into the woods to let me know it was either a turtle or a snake. Yes! He had a different bark for each! And oh how he loved to torment the rat snakes at Burrage as they sunned on the sandy bog road the borders the pond.

* building a looping race track through the backyard and woods as a young pup - actually causing a banked rut from his normal reconnaissance at the beginning of each outing.

* we named an island out back in the woods "Pouting Island" because Nate would go there and not make a peep if he thought he had been naughty or HAD been naughty). When he felt his pennance was complete, he would answer my call and come home.

* but most of you will know him from our days competing in Agility; that whenever we finished a course(whether he got that contact, or the 12th weave pole or not) he would leap up and spin looking me in the eye with a big grin! That's what I ran for!

Godspeed, my sweet Nate, and thank you.....

(Photo credit: [Lesley Cole Mattuchio](#))

CNEBC Logo Items

We have the following CNEBC Logo Items available:

- ♦ T-Shirts in Burgundy (L, XL), Orange (S, M, L, XL), Navy (S, M, L, XL), Green (L, XL), and Dark Green (S, L, XL), for \$15 each



- ♦ Hats in Khaki, Navy, Orange, Dark Green and Orange Mesh \$15 each



- ♦ Jackets in Khaki (S or XL) \$10 each
- ♦ 2010 Summer Specialty T-Shirts in Khaki (M, L or XL) \$5 each



Contact Peggy Aguiar to order at paguiar07@comcast.net or call at 603-488-5193, Note: shipping is available at buyers expense, PayPal is accepted.



Central New England Brittany Club

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Check out our website at
WWW.CNEBC.ORG

50/50 RAFFLE TICKET ARE AVAILABLE

THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT THE ANNUAL
GAME DINNER ON JANUARY 24, 2016

If you need more tickets to sell or buy, please contact
Peggy Aguiar paguiar07@comcast.net

The more tickets we sell, means it will be more cash
for both the winner and the club!

Deadline for the next issue is April 30, 2015!
Please send any submissions to: paguiar07@comcast.net
