



Newsletter of The Bulldog Club of Metropolitan Atlanta

BCMA Bullytin

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From The Editor:

Folks, what can I say? A HUGE THANK YOU to ALL who participated in some way, whether large or small, to make our 2009 Specialty Shows the best ever! I hesitate to even name anyone for fear of missing a contributor. Just know you are all appreciated.

If you missed it, we had a wonderful weekend at the *Holiday Inn Select*, full of Bulldogs and Bulldoggers! So much hard work goes into making a show successful and this can only be done by lots of devoted Bulldog people.

These shows are important because they help bring to the forefront our wonderful breed. The excellent examples set by many of our exhibitors is a teaching tool for others when looking at the standard, selecting a pet or show dog, making decisions regarding breeding or not, and becoming an ethical owner. We simply could not do what we do without the many donations of time, money, and ideas.

Annette Nobles

CLUB NEWS

Don't forget our new website. Kudos to Cathy Miller for doing a fabulous job. Remember upcoming events, meetings, and important news are there so check often. If you have pictures taken during our specialty shows, brags, announcements, or any other pictures please send them to bcma0797@yahoo.com.

Congratulations to all who exhibited in our recent shows. All the judges made the comments that judging was very difficult as there were so very many nice dogs in the ring.

Spring is right around the corner and so is our annual **Spring Puppy Match**. The date will be posted soon on our website; the match will be in April. Get those puppies ready, if you can help in any way let Vanessa Mosher know.

Meeting Notice

BCMA Meeting	
Wednesday March 11, 2009	
Dekalb Animal Hospital	
4070 Lawrenceville Highway	
Tucker, GA	
Topic	
TBA (please check website for updates)	
Officers/Board	6:30 pm
Regular Meeting	7:30 pm

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY
HOW ABOUT A KISS, YOU KNOW
I'M IRISH!!



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

IRISH BLESSING

May you always walk in sunshine.
 May you never want for more.
 May Irish Bulldogs rest their heads right beside your door.

Unknown

IT TAKES MOXIE!

According to Wikipedia "Moxie" means "guts" or "courage," as in "He's got moxie!" "Moxie" has come to mean "energy" or "pep" in common usage, and is included in standard dictionaries.

It would seem that Clay and Bea Page aptly named their little girl "SittingBullies Wildwood Mocking Bird" AKA Moxie. Moxie is an outstanding example of Bulldog breeding and what a Bulldog can accomplish.

Moxie completed two more

AKC agility titles on January 24th at the Obedience Club of Daytona agility trial in FL—Open Agility Preferred (OAP), and Novice Jumper Preferred (NJP). Both of these titling runs were clean and fast—perfect scores of 100, with time to spare!

Moxie is now: SittingBullies Wildwood Mockingbird, CD RA OAP NJP CGC TT and Champion Pointed. Moxie just turned two last month and is scheduled for hip and elbow radiographs. To date, her health screenings

have yielded normal results for patellae, thyroid, heart and trachea from OFA, as well as eyes from CERF. Her CHIC # is 538750.

Agility is not for all Bull-dogs. Although Moxie is truly unique for our breed, there are many Bulldogs out there for whom rally, agility and obedience could be a definite possibility.

Patterns of Legislation

The AKC is aware that NIGHTLINE, which airs on ABC, is pursuing a story on canine health, including breeding. The AKC welcomes all constructive dialogue about the sport and on ways to improve the health of dogs. However, all indications are that the story will not be a fair and balanced look at the issues. With the guidance of our advisors, the AKC declined to participate but instead provided NIGHTLINE with an official statement:

"The American Kennel Club is the nation's leading not-for-profit organization devoted to canine health, breeding and responsible dog ownership. The AKC's breeding policies and high ethical standards have made us the most widely respected registry in the world. Each year, the AKC performs approximately 5,000 kennel and breeder inspections to ensure the proper care and conditions of dogs and has led the charge in regards to advancing canine health, including founding the AKC Canine Health Foundation in 1995. Since that time, \$22 million has been given to more than 500 research projects at 74 vet schools and research institutes worldwide to improve the health of all dogs."

It has also come to our attention that some individual AKC constituents have been approached for interviews or may be approached at dog shows. In this event we recommend politely declining the interview and referring their requests to the AKC's Communications dept at communications@akc.org or 212-696-8343.

You may also direct those interested in this topic to www.akcdoghealth.com for pertinent information.

American Kennel Club Communications
communications@akc.org

***Permission to cross-post to all breed, club and dog show lists

**A TAIL WAGGING WELCOME TO
 NEW MEMBERS**

Lucinda Rogers of Madison, GA
 Alexandra Cortez of Atlanta, GA



BRAGS

Congratulations to James and Cathy Miller. Mars Hill Champagne Toast was Winners Bitch at the recent BCA Division VIII show and on Sunday of the recent BCMA Specialty Shows (both majors).

Congratulations to Danny & Dianna Thompson. Bayview Sun King Tugger was Best of Breed two days of the recent FL circuit.

Congratulations to Ric, Rebecca and Russell Turpin. Chessli Burberry's Just Anna was Winners Bitch on Saturday of the recent BCMA Specialty Shows (major).

Getting More Bark For Your Buck (reprinted with permission)

Today the human-animal bond is stronger than ever. Seemingly, the more tumultuous the world around us, the tighter we cling to our beloved pets. They soothe us with their predictability and unconditional love, and they consistently give in excess of what they receive. Imagine then, the heartache one feels when it's necessary to cut back on a pet's health care because of financial hardship. Last week I worked with Joan and her ten-year-old Labrador, Rudy who still acts like a puppy. They are devoted to one another, and Joan has always done everything possible to care for her best buddy's health. Rudy had been vomiting and not finishing his meals (keep in mind, most Labs would quit breathing before they quit eating). When I mentioned blood tests and X-rays, Joan began sobbing and expressed profound guilt and worry because she was unable to afford these diagnostics. Like so many others in this diseased economy Joan recently lost her job, depleted her financial reserves, and was in the midst of foreclosure. I gave Joan a big hug, told her how much I appreciated her candor, and reassured her that a diet change and medication to soothe Rudy's stomach might be the solution. She will call me with an update next week.

If you are feeling a financial pinch (who isn't these days), here are some things you can do to economize while still caring for your pet's health:

- When talking with your vet, lay your financial cards on the table. Yes, this is difficult (talking "fleas" is one thing- having a candid conversation about your bank account is whole 'nother ball game), but know that such discussion can open doors to options that make better financial sense. Rarely is there only one way to diagnose or treat a disease. You are entitled to an explanation of the risks and benefits of every single option, regardless of your financial status. Request a written cost estimate before ser-

vices are provided. In no way does this reflect how much you love your pet; you are simply being fiscally responsible

- Learn about all of your payment options. Consider investing in pet health insurance, especially if you are inclined to take the "do-everything-possible" approach.
- Don't neglect the preventive care that could save you money in the long run. Administering heartworm preventive is less expensive for you (and safer for your dog) than treating heartworm infection
- What should one do if forced to contemplate euthanasia for a pet solely because of financial constraints? Before succumbing to such a drastic decision, I strongly encourage thoroughly investigating every other conceivable option. Consider coming up with a creative payment plan such as bartering services or goods, researching dog or breed-specific rescue associations, borrowing money from friends or relatives (borrowing from a bank might be a silly suggestion these days), applying for a donation from a pet health assistance organization, or finding a new, financially capable guardian for your pet. Such exploration of options might just save a life and will do wonders for everyone's peace of mind.

Nancy Kay, DVM

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine
Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association 2009

Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award

Author of: *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*

Website: <http://www.speakingforspot.com>

Spot's Blog: <http://speakingforspot.wordpress.com>

Remember

Any websites, products, or books featured in this newsletter ARE NOT solicitations or endorsements by the BCMA. They are simply shared suggestions for products, sites, etc. that have been enjoyed by various members. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of its editor, the Bulldog Club of Metropolitan Atlanta, or its officers. The editor or BCMA takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in advertisements and reserves the right to reject or edit all material. As with any medical advice please consult with your veterinarian first.

SPECIALTY SHOW RESULTS

February 21, 2009

JUDGE: **MRS. KARAN KILGUS** - 75 entries

BB: Ch. Kepley's First Impression, Jack & Margie Kepley
BOS: Martin's Whiskey Shooter, Kathy Harris & Marie Thomas
BW,WD: Martin's Whiskey Shooter, Kathy Harris & Marie Thomas
WB: Chessli Burberry's Just Anna, Ricci & Rebecca Turpin, Russell Turpin
RWB: Lawshir's Megastar, Shirley Davis & Linda Lyerly
RWD: Avalons Riptide, Carol Campbell
Best Puppy: Avalons Riptide, Carol Campbell

SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE: **MS. ELIZABETH NISBETT** - 29 entries

BIS: Mugwash's Grendel The Great, Shirley Davis
BOS: Hetherbull Topline Maya, Paula Turner & Jean Hetherington

February 22, 2009

JUDGE: **MRS. NANCY HARRISON** - 71 entries

BB: Ch. Kepley's First Impression, Jack & Margie Kepley
BOS: Ch Hetherbull Topline O-O, Jean Hetherington & Paula Turner
BW,WD: River City's Poetic Justice, Kimberley & Rodney Mason, Lucky & Donna Watson
WB: Mars Hill Champagne Toast, Cathy Miller
RWB: Hetherbull Topline Talk About Me, Jean Hetherington & Paula Turner
RWD: Martin's Whiskey Shooter, Kathy Harris & Marie Thomas
Best Puppy: Trimbull Dreams Come True, Herrell & Angie Collins, Mark & Melissa Stiles

THANKS TO MEMBER RON MURPHY FOR SHARING THIS PRODUCT

Our economic news is bad and seems to be getting worse every day. This is enough to stress just about anybody... But our dogs don't know that we are in a recession. They don't have to pay the mortgage or worry about keeping their job ... so why should they worry?

The truth is, **our dogs pick up on our emotions and react to the chaos in our lives.** When we're tense, they're tense. When their lives feel chaotic, they become agitated. Our stress certainly impacts the lives of our four-legged friends. And if they're not picking up on the stress in your life, there are plenty of other things that can put your dog on edge ... A strange environment, being home alone for long periods of time, loud noises or thunder, long car trips ... all of these things impact your dog's sense of well-being.

When you and I are trying to unwind, listening to the gentle sound of the ocean's waves or some soothing music can really help. Music really can be good for the soul, but does this apply to pets as well?

Actually, it does. Studies of household pets have shown that music can definitely help them to relax. Researchers have even identified certain sounds, songs and instruments that seem to work best. For instance, dogs and cats prefer classical music. Dogs will actually bark less - especially when they listen to Bach. Under stress-inducing situations, household pets will often slip into a very serene and peaceful state of mind after listening to classical music for only a few minutes... ahhh. To be an effective relaxation tool, music must have a consistently smooth, soothing dynamic from start to finish with no abrupt changes in tempo, volume or rhythm. That's not usually the case with radio broadcasts or most "off-the-shelf" classical music CDs.

A new music CD you may want to check out is [Music My Pet](#). The musical genius behind this pet-friendly relaxation CD is **Tom Nazziola, the award-winning musician** who was the principal performer on Disney's acclaimed **Baby Einstein children's CDs and DVDs**.

"Music My Pet" was developed for the specific purpose of calming our pets; and the science behind it is very sound. It re-orchestrates classical pieces by popular composers like Bach, Beethoven and Brahms using the instruments, sounds and musical dynamics proven to calm dogs, cats and other household pets. To hear a sample of this music and get further information on this CD you can visit www.musicmypet.com

