

Northern New Jersey Great Dane Club

MAY 2014

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 12, 2014
Contact: AKC Communications
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AKC EXPANDS THERAPY DOG TITLING PROGRAM

New York, NY - In an effort to honor the thousands of therapy dog teams that make a difference in the lives of others daily, the American Kennel Club® (AKC®) has added four new titles to the popular AKC Therapy Dog™ program.

In addition to the AKC Therapy Dog (ThD) title (awarded after 50 visits), the AKC now offers:

AKC Therapy Dog Novice (ThDN) - Awarded after 10 visits . AKC Therapy Dog Advanced (ThDA) - Awarded after 100 visits . AKC Therapy Dog Excellent (ThDX) - Awarded after 200 visits . AKC Distinguished Therapy Dog (ThDD) - Awarded after 400 visits

"The AKC heard from many dog owners whose dogs had already earned the ThD title and who wanted additional formal recognition of their ongoing commitment to volunteering to help others. We're pleased to expand the AKC Therapy Dog program as a result of these requests," said Doug Ljungren, Vice President of AKC Sports and Events. "We've also added a way to acknowledge beginning therapy dogs, hoping that this will encourage even more dogs and owners to participate in therapy dog work."

Dogs who are registered and approved by recognized therapy dog organizations may apply to earn the AKC Therapy Dog titles, which will be listed on the dog's AKC title record. Any dog, including mixed breeds, can earn AKC Therapy Dog titles as long as the dog is AKC-registered, listed with AKC Canine Partners or enrolled in the Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) program. AKC does not train or certify therapy dogs.

Applications for the new titles will be accepted beginning June 1st, with titles awarded beginning July 1st.

To apply for a title or learn more about the AKC Therapy Dog program, visit <http://www.akc.org/dogowner/therapy/index.cfm>.

Northern New Jersey Great Dane Club
Minutes from the April 16, 2014
Membership Meeting
Franklin Steakhouse
318 Passaic Ave
Fairfield, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order at 7:48PM By Jeffrey D. Ball.

Members in attendance (7): Cathy Dlugosz, Jeffrey D. Ball, Ken Bocian, Diane Bocian, Jack Keenan, Rose Ann Tucker, David Litke

Guests in attendance (0):

I. Minutes- The meeting Minutes for March meeting were approved on a motion by Diane and Second by Ken.

II. Corresponding Secretary- Zuzanna could not make the meeting but reported to Jeffrey nothing new was received.

III. Recording Secretary- No Report

IV. Treasurer- Diane B. reported a balance of \$8394.26 in the checking account.

V. Committee Reports-

Memberships- No new application were received

Sunshine- Jeffrey reported that Carol had her surgery and was doing well. Recovery time would be several weeks and Carol looked forward to seeing everyone soon.

Therapy- Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs would be in Ridgewood on Saturday, April 27th with the Ridgewood Responsible Pet Ownership Committee. They will be judging the Ridgewood Daffodil Festival Dog Parade and meet and greet public.

Match Show- The Match Show will be on May 18, 2014. The location for the show will be either at the park in Montville. David reviewed the committee and went through check lists.

Diane and Cathy were handling food. Sign-up sheet was passed around and all supplies addressed

Ken and Deema would be handling the cooking.

Ed would be handling the photography and Betsy will help out.

Carol and Cathy would be handling judge's gifts and prizes. Jeffrey offered to supply the Match judge gift. Club agreed to use national glasses when appropriate.

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Cathy took care of food tickets.

Cathy put together the gifts for the tricky tray. Club members agreed to hold 50/50. Cathy would bring ticket for both. Jeff would bring backup tickets.

Jeffrey handed over ribbons and rosettes to David and the club discussed order of judging. Jeffrey would make up judge's book and signup sheets.

Setup would start at 8:00 a.m. and everyone would assist in cleanup.

Rescue- Two events were coming up which Jack and Gay would be attending. They will not be able to make our Match Show.

Fund Raising- Jeffrey will speak to Carol to get a timetable for the garage sale.

Website- The website is now up to date thanks to Zuzanna. If there are any changes that need to be made to the sites please contact Zuzanna.

VI. Unfinished Business: No Report

At the last meeting it was reported that the Northeastern GDCA National Division finance report was done and waiting approval of the Great Dane Club. Nothing new to report regarding it.

The NNJGDC will work with the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management to get one of the AKC disaster trailers into North Jersey. The club would promote the donation form to encourage people to donate to the cause. The donation form allows people to donate to the trailers and still get a tax deduction.

VII. New Business:

There being no further business, Diane made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rose and unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D Ball

Jeffrey D Ball

Substituting for Kira Wright

Recording Secretary

TO THE GDCA DIVISION CHAIRMEN & DELEGATES

The members of the Charitable Trust are truly grateful for all the efforts each and every member of the GDCA has made on behalf of the health, and welfare our Great Danes. We realize that so much more is needed if we are to meet the continuing needs for rescue, research and education on an ongoing basis, and that each and every member of the GDCA and affiliate Clubs should be

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able to participate in some way to achieve those goals, if not financially, then surely by encouraging and supporting the efforts of those who can step forward to make this a reality.

Please know that it is largely through your efforts, Division Chairs and Club Delegates, that the Trust has been able to fund the following: \$18,000 to Rescue, \$35,000 for Research (Wobblers) and \$12,000 for scholarship grants, all within about 14 months. But, these funds need to be replenished, as the need is ongoing. To that end, we would like to share a few ideas for fundraising events that have been successful for us in the past.

The fundraisers we have held are not particularly original, but were easily prepared, with just a few lunch meetings, and, thanks to everyone who participated, all were successful. We're very sure that others will be able to come up with ideas which are much more creative and will also be positive in results.

So, we propose the following:

Each Division be asked to hold at least 1 major fundraiser every 6 years. The Division which holds the National, for instance the Western Division in 2011, was asked to hold a fundraiser in 2013, so that the Division hosts the National, has one full year to relax, not ask anyone for money or donated items for an entire year, and then holds the fundraiser the following year. Then they will have 4 years to concentrate on their next National. That's really within the realm of possibility for any Division. We don't tell them how much they have to raise, how to raise it, we just ask them to do their best.

Each Division is able to raise money any way they see fit, either through individual Club fundraisers, or as we did in the West, by inviting the entire Division membership to participate in one giant event.

Suggestions are made with the capabilities and distance between clubs in mind, and include:

1. a \$10.00 increase in dues for each member, for their fundraising year only. (This is perhaps the simplest and least involved method to raise money and is only asking for about \$1.45/year increase for the 6 years between fundraisers)
2. a special raffle, the proceeds of which go to the Division fundraiser, to be held at each Club's Specialty for that year only. This could be a 50/50 raffle or a raffle or auction of a specific donated item
3. a few "wine & cheese" tailgates at major dog shows, passing the hat and the funds go to the Division fundraiser – select the date, and ask volunteers to begin collecting the wine & cheese – spread the list of donors over as wide a range as possible
4. a Texas Hold'em or card party, with a 50/50 split of winnings going to the Division fundraiser, again choosing a location and date to attract as many attendees as possible
5. hold a "gold party" – this was such a simple, easy way to raise money,

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the gold company even provided funds for the lunch – everyone was so excited by getting paid for their old, outdated or broken gold and silver - someone does need to step up and host the event in their home, dust a little bit, but other than that it's a snap – or, depending on your site rules and regs, on your Specialty weekends, the gold companies can even come to your show site and hold the event after the Specialty, thereby having a much larger crowd to draw from. When the GDCC held this “gold party”, there were only 12 people attending on a very, very rainy weekend. Everyone who came took home all the money for the gold they sold and the Trust received \$1000.00 from the gold company. Incredible result for little effort.

6. if the Division chooses to hold a dinner event, remember to invite the members of the entire Division to participate – you will be surprised at how many people from outside of the area where the event is being held will be happy to contribute – we made ours very casual, but whatever works for your Division is best – we also sent “thank you” cards to everyone who donated but was unable to attend

We know that most areas of the country have combined 4 show weekends, and if one person in the area is willing to volunteer their home, or if a few people will host the event by encircling their motor homes, then you've got a great start. After the date is picked, once again you'll need to get together with a few people who are willing to coordinate things, and pick a simple menu, or choose pot luck. It doesn't have to be an expensive evening for the host(s) if many are included in bringing or ordering the food. Some people are only waiting to be asked – pizza delivery, anyone? The camaraderie and the realization that something important is being accomplished, more than makes up for any shortcomings that may occur. The South East Division has had several of these events, which have been tremendously successful.

It is our hope that any or all of the above individual options (1 through 6) will be used by individual Clubs throughout the year, and that at least one dinner party will be held, inviting participation from every member of the Division. That would hopefully maximize the funds received from the Division for their year of participation.

As members of the Charitable Trust Fundraising Committee, we are more than willing to lend an ear to anyone who has questions, and we are eager to hear your suggestions for successful fundraisers, all to the benefit of our Great Danes.

Thank you for your consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Linda Ridder, Chairman, GDCA Charitable Trust
lindaridder@me.com

Cathy Schaefer, Fundraising Chair
dickschaefer@gmail.com

Updating Pet Trust Statutes

By Nancy E. Halpern, DVM, Esq. on April 22, 2014 Posted in Animal Planning, Trusts and Wills

The “Pet Trust statute” in New Jersey, first enacted in 2001, should be amended to reflect current concerns and those which are reasonably foreseeable so that pet owners’ intentions can be honored for the care of their pets when they are no longer able to provide that care. These amendments include: deleting the current 21 year limitation for the duration of the trust; clarifying which animals can be designated in the trust; adding the option of drafting an *inter vivos* trust (enabling care of pets when an owner is temporarily or permanently incapacitated); clarifying that only the owner of the designated animal(s) can establish such a trust; and permitting the trust to cover the offspring of designated animals under certain conditions.

New Jersey is one of the majority of states with a statute validating trusts for the care of certain designated animals (the “Pet Trust statute”). The Michigan State University College of Law maintains a website that tracks the language of the state statutes.

MANY PETS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS LIVE LONGER THAN 21 YEARS

Like many other states, New Jersey should consider deleting the current 21 year limitation for the duration of the trust in its Pet Trust statute. Many animals that can be legally owned in New Jersey live longer than 21 years, including: horses, parrots, and macaws. Additionally, other common pets, like cats, can live for more than 21 years. Therefore, limiting a pet trust to just 21 years simply does not make sense. Any pet owner who went to the trouble of creating a trust for their pets would want that trust to provide for the care of their pets for the remainder of the pet’s life. Several states with similar restrictions have amended their statutes accordingly, based on the same reasoning.

At the same time, with advancing scientific technology, it makes sense to prohibit the trust from extending it to pets who are reproduced by cloning, or other similarly artificial means of reproduction. If not, a trust could potentially extend forever, which many would find objectionable, compared with permitting the trust to provide for the life of the designated animal, even if for more than 21 years.

The benefit of establishing a trust to provide for your pet has been previously discussed here. Anyone interested should contact us to discuss the best way to make certain that your pet is cared for when you are no longer able to provide that care yourself.

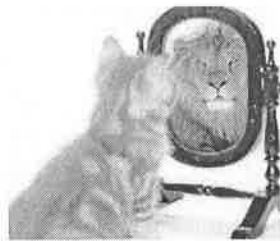
As the Wheels Turn

By Laura Reeves PHA

Imagine....

You've heard the old standard about putting the emPHAsis on the wrong sylLAbLe? It seems a significant percentage of our sport suffers from this ailment.

"We make our living off other people's egos....."



This sage advice was imparted to me by one of the handlers I worked for back in the day. Certainly, this somewhat cynical observation has some level of truth. Ego plays a far larger role in our sport than most anyone would be willing to admit.

"Thank you! Oh my God, thank you! You just made my dreams come true!"

Said to me by a sobbing 70something client who bred and owned the dog I had just piloted to best in show. Her body was twisted and gnarled from the results of a drunk driver crashing into her and the effects of crippling arthritis. She could no more run around the ring than I could fly to the moon. She had been involved in her breed since it's acceptance into the AKC's registry and dreams of that moment had sustained her through a great many personal hardships.

So, I've chosen to think of my job, instead of serving outsized egos, as fulfilling dreams. It's a personal choice of perspective. Life is just too short.

Misplaced emphasis and upside down priorities in this sport impact not just the show ring, but many whelping boxes and dog clubs. Breeding to a top winner simply because it wins, with no clue about pedigree research; chasing the almighty rankings & ribbons at the expense of the dog's and handler's well being; "all-about me" mind sets that gridlock our clubs.... These are all examples of focusing on the wrong things.

Ours is a sport, or should be, of aesthetics, yes, but ethics as well. A place to venerate beauty while simultaneously seeking to produce, present and promote dogs which truly represent the very best of everything in their breeds.

I encourage each of you to dream big, aim high and choose to place your emphasis where it counts... not on yourself, but on doing the right thing — for the dogs in your care, for your breed, your peers, your clubs and the sport.

Just imagine.

As always, this is JMHO....

DATES to REMEMBER

Membership meeting

MAY 21st, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Franklin Steakhouse Tavern
318 Passaic Ave
Fairfield, NJ 07004

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

**NNJGDC
11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450**

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