



Canine Chronicle

A Publication of the Kalamazoo Dog Training Club, Inc.,
1223 Bretton Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49006-2115

E-Mail: graceace@aol.com or kazoodog@aol.com FAX: 269-344-3474



KDTC MARCH MEETINGS AND PROGRAM SET

Mar. 3rd Meetings

KDTC's Board and General meetings will be held on Mon., Mar. 3rd, at King-Westwood School Dining Room, 1100 Nichols Rd., Kalamazoo, MI. The Board meeting and General meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively.

Guests are always welcome at KDTC meetings and members are encouraged to attend every month.

Mar. 3rd Program

MARKETING OF KDTC: FUTURE OF OUR CLUB AND CLASSES AT STAKE

KDTC's Board, in response to concerns about our obedience class offerings, appointed a Marketing Committee (see **Marketing Committee Appointed**, p. 2). The committee's mission, as its name implies, is to examine recent trends in class enrollments, offerings and practices so as to develop plans and policies to increase our visibility and reputation as the dog training organization of choice in our community.

The Marketing Committee is of utmost importance to all members of KDTC, for we can no longer simply proclaim, "We are the best." Our practices and our class offerings – not just our words – must consistently give credence to our being "the best" if we are to compete with the many other organizations in our area that are providing quality canine instruction. The committee members, in addressing the many issues associated with marketing, are planning to share information and to get feedback from members in presenting their marketing program at the March meeting.

At the March meeting, the Marketing Committee will report on their work to date, presenting ideas and potential recommendations for improving instruction and increasing class enrollments. More importantly, because their work and ultimate recommendations will impact KDTC's future in a significant way, they will be seeking all members' input in a variety of areas related to our classes and the marketing of our classes:

- Quality of Class Instruction
- Variety of Class Offerings
- Continuing Education of Instructors and Class Assistants
- Use of Media (e.g., newspaper advertising, brochures, etc.)
- Requirements for Qualifying as A Class Instructor or Class Assistant
- Processes for Evaluating Instruction and Class Curriculums
- Professional Behavior
- Monitoring of Class Drop-Out Rates

KDTC is at an important, even crucial, crossroads in terms of continuing to effectively market and provide high quality dog training classes as we face increasing competition from many others in our area who are offering classes comparable to ours. In addressing these issues, imperative to our future as a club if we are to continue to draw a large segment of the community to our classes, we must have the input of all of our members in determining what we need to do and in making the changes we may need to make. **We need every member's input at the March meeting, so we do hope that everyone will attend this meeting.**

YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR PROGRESS & GROWTH AS A CLUB! YOU CAN MAKE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY BEING PART OF THE MARCH 3RD PROGRAM, OFFERING YOUR IDEAS REGARDING THE MARKETING AND MAINTENANCE OF OUR KDTC CLASS OFFERINGS!!

Marketing Committee Appointed

During the last two years, KDTC class enrollments have been depressed enough for a couple of sessions to create concern. The Board, recognizing that consistently full classes pay the rent for KDTC, appointed a Marketing Committee at the February 2008 meeting to study ways to maintain and/or increase KDTC's enrollments at all four annual class sessions.

Members of this key committee include Elly Burke, Diane Coles, Marcia Johnson, Karen Stahr and Karen Wood. The committee has already met and is planning to conduct the program at the March meeting of KDTC to review their work and Club class goals, and to get input from those in attendance.

It is important that as many members as possible attend the March meeting to learn about the work of the Marketing Committee and to provide feedback to the committee relative to our class offerings and ways to increase current class enrollments.



New Members Welcomed

At the February KDTC meeting, the following new member was accepted for membership:

Heather Kenjebaer
5955 Briarcliff Ln., #B
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
Ph.: 269.267.3606

E-Mail: heatharae@hotmail.com

Heather been involved in KDTC's classes for about 6 months, having taken her Boxer mix, Inga, through some obedience classes.

Last month we welcomed Ron Blakely as a member and may have listed his address incorrectly. Ron, who has Jake, a Siberian Husky, can be reached at:

67659 38th St.
PawPaw, MI 49079
Ph.: 269.655-6084

E-Mail: HARLEYFXRRON@aol.com.

We were also happy to see that Helen Raseman, a former member, is planning to reactivate her membership.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

RECENT CLUB ACTIONS



At the Feb. 4th Board meeting, the following occurred:

- Corrected minutes to reflect that Mary Law agreed to check out the possibility of a seminar with an AKC representative to apprise us of Rally and Obedience changes;
- Passed motions that when a KDTC member earns an OTCH, we place an ad in "Front & Finish", spending the amount required for such ads;
- Passed a motion to close out accounts in savings and checkings and convert money into CDs that pay higher interest, leaving CD amounts purchased to the treasurer's discretion;
- Determined that the \$50.00 class fee will be implemented in the spring with the \$5.00 coupon tabled to spring;
- A Marketing Committee was appointed to study class enrollments, ways of increasing enrollments and promoting KDTC.

At the General meeting on Feb. 4th, the following occurred:

- Barb Osborne volunteered to serve as a KDTC Picnic co-chair;
- Heather Kenjebaer was accepted as a single member of KDTC (see **New Members Welcomed**, this page).



**We are
Sorry...**

...that Joan
John Hines



and

recently lost their rescue Corgi, Frances;

...that Becki VanderWeele recently lost Ripley, her Golden Retriever rescue dog;

...that Sandy Krueger lost JJ, her Belgian Tervuren in February. JJ was Sandy's first competitive obedience dog and her best buddy for 14 years, serving as a great helper to Sandy since she became disabled.

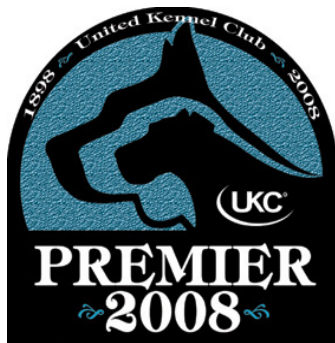
JJ, Frances and Ripley were wonderful dogs and will be missed so much! Our thoughts are with the Hines family, with Becki VanderWeele and with Sandy Krueger.

Send information about dogs who have crossed the rainbow bridge to the editor.

Think Warm and Save these Dates!

By Jan West

In this season of snow 'n blow, summer and June. That all Day, I received a phone call from end of the line had just received and she was curious about our never been to Kalamazoo before, was like. In the "small, small chatted – that she has entered Ontario, in early April that a friend could share with her what the



one is not likely to be thinking about changed when, just before Valentines Arizona. The lovely lady at the other information for the Premier Invitational Thursday night Show 'n Go. She has so I could tell her what our ring area world" we live in, I learned – as we the Canadian Shows in Chatham, and I are planning to go to, too, and I arena and crating area are like there. the March issue of "Bloodlines" arrived

A couple of days after her call, in the mail with all the 2008 PREMIER information in it. Entries open on March 3rd. Any entries received before that date will be returned. Entries close on Fri., May 16, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) OR when the numerical limit for the event has been reached, after which time entries shall not be accepted, cancelled or altered (except as noted in the refund section of the premium list). No wait lists will be established. In other words, if you are interested in showing in any Event, don't wait until the last minute to enter.

In past years, Obedience has always filled before the closing date. Each performance class has its own Entry limit. Obedience limits are 55 dogs per judge per day. The judges for this year's trials are Vicky Sheets and Minta "Mike" Williquette. If my memory serves me right, and sometimes it doesn't, I think we worked with these two ladies before. They will judge the All Stars Invitational on Friday as well as the Premier Trials on Saturday and Sunday. Entry fees are \$25 first entry, \$20 each additional entry, same day/same dog/same event made at the same time.

NOTE: The mailing address for Premier entries is: UKC Premier Entries, PO Box 39, Portage, MI 49081-0039. You may also fax entries "at your own risk" or you can hand deliver them to UKC. You can find the Official Premier entry forms on the UKC website (www.ukcdogs.com) with the Premier information, or ask Jan and she will be happy to make you a copy.

On their page listing the 2008 Premier judges, they indicate you should see Trial & Error of Kalamazoo for Show 'n Go information. After hunting through the whole magazine for the ad they put in for us, I discovered the back of the front cover had all kinds of information about the weekend. For us, it says that on Thursday, June 12, 2008, there is an "Obedience Show 'n Go" hosted by the Trial and Error of Kalamazoo Obedience Club, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Room A (same location oas the All-Star and PREMIER Obedience Trials), \$7.00 for 10 minutes of ring time. Time may be used for a run-through or to train." And an FMI gives my phone number.

So think WARM and mark your calendars for June 12th, 13th, 14ths and 15th. Please plan to volunteer to help us in KDTC earn money for our future projects. If you plan to show, we can schedule stewarding time around your show schedule. With all the responsibilities we have taken on, we are – as always – really going to need your help.



SOME COMING EVENTS

(Contributed by Jan West)

- March 27 KKC Obedience & Rally Show 'n Go, 9th St., Kalamazoo, MI
- March 28-29 KKC Rally Obedience Trials, 9th St., Kalamazoo, MI
- April 11-13 Kent Kennel Klub, Chatham, Ontario, Canada, 3 All-Breed Conformation Trials and 6 Obedience Trials (Jan West has informatiion, if anyone is interested)

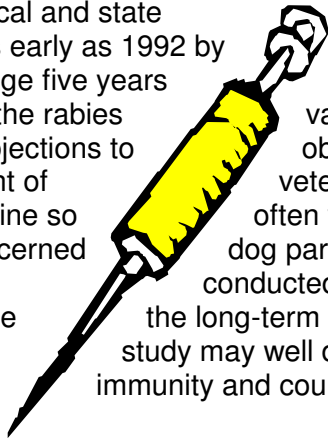
MEMBERS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT COMING EVENTS (MATCHES, TRIALS, SEMINARS, ETC.) ARE ENCOURAGED TO FORWARD IT FOR PUBLICATION IN THE CANINE CHRONICLE TO GRACE STEVENS, 1223 BRETTON DR., KALAMAZOO, MI 49006, E-MAIL kazoodog@aol.com.

CANINE RABIES VACCINE CHALLENGE STUDIES

Many dog people have long objected to having to have their dogs immunized against rabies so frequently, just to comply with local and state most scientific data published as early as 1992 by were immune to a rabies challenge five years annual or triennial “boosters” of the rabies folks were very strong in their objections to because they are the most potent of have to have such a potent vaccine so

The grass roots efforts of concerned support a research study, to be Veterinary Medicine, to determine canine rabies vaccination. The a minimum of seven (7) years of regulations.

To learn more about the www.RabiesChallengeFund.org.



regulations. They knew that, according to a research team that showed that dogs after vaccination, that state laws requiring vaccine were not really necessary. These obviously too frequent rabies immunizations veterinary vaccines. Why should their dogs often when it really was not needed?

dog parents ultimately resulted in \$177,000.00 to conducted by the University of Wisconsin School of the long-term duration of immunity conferred by the study may well demonstrate that rabies vaccines can provide immunity and could lead to changes in outmoded state

Rabies Challenge Fund and the Wisconsin studies, visit this site:



A New Book by Brenda Aloff

Brenda Aloff, who presented a seminar for KDTC a few years ago and has written some exceptional books (e.g., Canine Body Language, A Photographic Guide and Aggression in Dogs: Practical Management Prevention and Behaviour Modification) has written a new book. Her latest book with DVD, Get Connected with Your Dog, is now available for \$49.95. This latest book “...is the key to building a relationship in which learning can flourish and the needs of both the dog and the owner are met. Relationships are built on communication, so having a common language that both sides can understand is of paramount importance. Luckily, dogs are masters of body language and you can learn to utilize movement and other kinds of body language to build an effective communications loop with your dog. Once you know how to communicate with your dog, that knowledge – combined with positive training techniques – can make you a much more effective trainer. And your dog will become a willing partner, one who trusts you and is willing to work with you to learn behaviors. Over time, your dog will flip the “Magic Switch” and begin to use the thinking part of his brain (the Frontbrain) more often than just the reactiv part of his brain (the Hindbrain). And you will have achieved a huge step forward in your ability to train and interact with your canine companions.”

This book will help you to learn how to use body language to help your dog understand to direct/redirect her movements, help you to be consistent and coherent in your interactions with your dogs and mark/reinforce behaviors you want to encourage. The book is 396 pages; the exercises shown in the accompanying DVD (90 minutes) will help you to build your skill and confidence as a trainer.

To order this new book, Get Connected with Your Dog, by Brenda Aloff, contact the web site at <http://brendaaloff.com/booksdvds.asp> to order.

Brenda Aloff, a Michigan writer and dog trainer, is unusually practical in her approach to working with and training dogs. Her books ought to be on every serious trainers’ and class instructors’ personal library shelves.

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL CANINE CHRONICLE IS MARCH 15TH!

The editor (1223 Bretton Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49006-2115 OR kazoodog@aol.com) needs your brags and photographs, news, essays, information about coming events, etc. for inclusion in future issues of KDTC’s newsletter. Please forward your news and brags, photographs and articles by the 15th of each month.

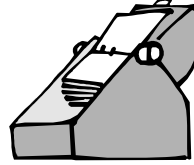
OUR NEWSLETTER IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE CONTRIBUTIONS WE RECEIVE!

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please note the following changes and/or corrections for the 2007/2008 KDTC Member Directory and pencil them into your copy of this directory:

Jennier & Phillip DeZwarte
5420 Farallon St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Becki VanderWeele
9621 W. "L" Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49009



This page is almost empty. It might have been filled had members forwarded their brags, news and essays for inclusion in this issue. Use it NOW to forward your latest news, brags and stories for inclusion in the April 2008 issue of the *Canine Chronicle*. E-mail to kazoodog@aol.com or mail to G. Stevens, 1223 Bretton Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49006-2115.

