

# LINE S

# FROM

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# L I N D A



AKC Delegate Wayne Boyd and his wife Jean are of fto Nice in the South of France to meet up with their English friends Colin and Adrienne Bowker and their daughter Sandra. The Bowker's are one of the most successful exhibitors of Great Pyrenees in England. Recently they imported one bitch and two boys. At only seventeen months old at the Great Pyrenees National Specialty in Michigan, "Murphy" won Best of Breed. The group will drive to the Italian Lakes in the north of Italy for a couple of nights before returning to Nice and following the shores of the Mediterranean to the Pyrenees.

Every year in September the French Breed Club, the RACP, hold their National Specialty in a little town called Argeles-Gazost in the heart of the mountains. This town is known as "The Cradle of the Breed" as it was here in 1907 that the first ever breed club was formed. This year is extra special because along with the show there will be the Third World Conference on the Great Pyrenees. Previously these have been held in England and Australia, and it is expected that the next one will be somewhere over here in the United States.

There will be speakers from France, Italy, the United States of America and Australia. Fortunately there will also be headsets to translate everything being said into English!!

The following day will include working tests for the Petit Berger (the Pyrenean Sheepdog) and temperament tests for the Great Pyrenees. To become a French Champion, dogs

have to have good hip scores and pass temperament tests as well as winning at the shows! The RACP also carries out detailed measurements of all the dogs at the show as part of a study of the breed. In the evening a parade of all the dogs entered at the show winds its way up through the town to the square where everyone enjoys the complimentary wine supplied by the "Office de Tourisme."

Sunday is the day of the show. Usually there will be entries from at least ten countries. It's a real International gathering and a big event for the town with many stalls there selling local produce and handicrafts.

Tuesday is Market Day, and The Boyds will be paying a visit there before flying off to England to stay with Colin and Adrienne in the English Lake District. Wayne and Jean are looking forward to seeing their dogs again. On Saturday the breed club in England is holding their "Specialty Open Show." The venue for this is a stately home called Ragley Hall. This is the home of the Marquis of Hertfordshire who used to own a Great Pyrenees in the past. The Judge is from Norway, and the Boyds hope to be able to show their Rivergroves Champions under him before returning home the following week.

Kudos to the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America for their new Judges Education Quick Reference Guide! The easy-to-carry, tri-fold, regular letter envelope size, illustrated guide is available upon request from Nancy Unliffe and Leah James, Co-Chairs of the club's Judges Education

Committee, 597 Wiswell Road, Holden, ME 04429.

Like my Jim, Bob Gracie is a perfectly normal husband who happily supports his family's "dog addictions." It was fun to watch him recently as he was torn between watching his daughter Anna compete for Best Junior at the same time his wife Lucy Campbell Gracie was showing in the Herding Group. Treating both girls to dinner at The Peppermill, one of Greenville's finest restaurants, made up for any lack of devotion to either of his girls.

Judy Cooper and Beth Sweigart, two of dogdom's beauties, have been spotted judging Large Sweepstakes lately. With their long histories in our sport, each of them would make attractive new additions to the judging ranks. Let's hope their applications are in the makings!

On August 19, George H. Roos passed away at his home in Warrenton, Virginia where he lived with his daughter Shelley. George was an AKC delegate for more than twenty-five years representing the St Joseph Missouri Kennel Club and more recently the Old Dominion Kennel Club. Many will remember him as the affable and efficient Old Dominion Kennel Club past President and Show Chairman, officiating at some of the largest dog shows in the country. He was also a past President of the Collie Club of America, Collie Club of America National Show Chairman, club Director at Large and Collie Health Foundation cooperator. George was a retired Colonel in the United States Air Force and World War II vet-

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eran. His daughter Shelley and son Ron ask that donations made in his memory be sent to the Collie Health Foundation, Peggy J. Darlington, Assistant Secretary, P.O. Box 2365, Hollister, California 95024-2365. You may go to their website [Colliehealth.org](http://Colliehealth.org) for information regarding the Foundation.

My brother Roy Ayes, Jr represented our family at the military funeral service for George. Roy wrote the following memoir for me.

"Our family is saddened by the passing of a great American hero, a charter member of America's greatest generation; George Roos was laid to rest in Arlington Memorial Cemetery September 1, 2005. If you have never attended a graveside formal ceremony at Arlington Memorial, you can not completely fathom how overwhelming it is to be amongst the vastness of markers representing exactly why America is free. The Chaplain of The U.S. Air force led the procession and recalled for those of us in attendance the heroic exploits of George during World War II and twenty plus years of service flying all sorts of aircraft in service of his country, finally retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. The Color Guard bearing George, folded the American flag and presented it to his daughter Shelley as the guns fired successive rounds and the lone trumpeter played taps in the distance. We all placed a rose with George, and the overwhelming beauty of the day, the setting, and the honor of having known George Roos somehow made it a little better.

Many of those in attendance knew George through his second life, serving the country of Collies. He worked with equal enthusiasm and rose to the top of the sport. I remember George from attending the Old Dominion Classic for years, sometimes to watch my father judge, sometimes to observe on my own, but always to spend time with George.

We rode in a plane once to look down at the show sight. He told me a number of people wanted to go, but he was taking me and to keep it quiet. I treasure the memories of spending time with George, my father, mother and sister, Dr. Richard Greathouse, Shelly, and Una Casquetto to name a few on some glorious afternoons at what is one of the best run shows in the country.

I also arrived on some nature cursed, bone-chilling monsoon days but George was there, working through it without complaint. One year I stayed late talking with Wayne and Jean Boyd, and as I was leaving, I had to stop again. No one was there to help George remove all of the access road show signs from the roadside. So we did it together, until the job was done, and that really memorializes this great American hero. He always finished what he started and he always got the job done right. It will take an army of people to fill his shoes. We will miss him."

Our sincerest sympathies also go out to Judge Eric Ringle whose mother passed away recently.

Alan Ream and Gene Hinson report that the Clemson Kennel Club mourns the loss of founding member Suzanne Culbertson. Suzanne had shown for twenty plus years. One time at a Halloween Weekend show, she dressed as Colonel Wally Pede — and then went into his ring with a mechanical French Bulldog. There's a picture on her wall showing this event stunt. Clemson Kennel Club hopes to establish a Perpetual Trophy to honor Suzanne's memory and spirit for the love of our sport even during her long illness.

My mailbag included a letter from Vince Nicholson and Sue Whaley.

"The Maryland Blue Crab Cluster of shows was held on the Charles County Fairgrounds in Bel Alton, Maryland. The five-day event combines the

Potomac Hound Club, Southern Maryland Kennel Club and Rock Creek Kennel Club and is the place to be if you enjoy having fun, good food and lots of friendly camaraderie among exhibitors.

This year the Potomac Hound Club Hound Group Show with over 300 entries began on Thursday with a Blessing of Hounds by the Reverend Diedra Kriewald, PhD. Prior to judging, the crowd was treated to a pack demonstration of Penn-Marydel hounds by the De La Brooke Foxhounds W Hunt. John McFadden, MFH, Huntsman Adam Townsend and Whipperin Sarah VanderVliet demonstrated a casting of the hounds and explained the basics of foxhunting by hounds in a pack. This was a remarkable example of cohesiveness and control, especially for those who know and appreciate the independence of hounds.

A unique feature of this year's Potomac Hound Club show was the sale of memorabilia from the collection of the late Anna Katherine Nicholas. This fundraiser for the Potomac Hound Club and Take The Lead was made possible through the generosity of Marcia Foy who was on-site and joined in the activities, including some stewarding.

A special attraction of this show was a Bred By Exhibitor Group, judged by Peter C.J. Martin. Best Hound for the day, judged by D. Roy Holloway went to a liver Bloodhound bitch, CH Marlee One For The Money.

A barbeque supper served by Adam's Rib concluded the festivities on Thursday that also included a live band performance by the Smith-Tucker Show Band In Review! They've promised a return engagement next year; the fun and frolicking continued well into the evening with several participants seen dancing on picnic tables!

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# L I N E S   F R O M   L I N D A



## M A R Y L A N D B L U E   C R A B C L U S T E R



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Back to back Southern Maryland Kennel Club shows were Friday and Saturday including a Friday evening Match, Canine Good Citizen testing, Obedience & Rally which drew more than one hundred participants each day, and the wonder fil Saturday evening Seafood Feast catered by Thompson's Seafood, a local waterman whose family has worked Southern Maryland's waters for generations.

Best In Show Friday, judged by Polly Smith, went to the Bulldog Ch. Legacy Only Calvin Klein and Saturday stop winner was the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Ch. Fredrik V H. Lamslag judged by Glenda Dawkins.

Rock Creek Kennel Club's back-to-back shows Sunday and Monday followed with Sunday's show including Obedience & Rally and Monday's Obedience.

Best In Show Sunday, judged by  
Connie Barton, was the Whippet Ch.  
Eclipse Envy of Sporting Field and on  
Monday the PBGV, Ch. Celestial G's  
Jolly Fairchild judged by Dr. Robert  
Smith

The Maryland Blue Crab Cluster is conducted by people who are very active in the dog game most every week, and they do the very best to accommodate everyone because they understand show people's needs. So, in spite of the seasonal summer warmth, this is truly one of those special groups of shows where most seem to have a wonderful time competing and enjoying the social and educational activities.

This year, a well-attended seminar conducted by Emily Latimer used English & American Foxhounds, Harriers and Beagles to give attendees knowledge of the differences and similarities between these breeds.

As jam-packed as the Cluster was

with activities and exhibitor amenities, including a two-day golf event chaired by Doug Holloway, undoubtedly the biggest hit was the big blue ice cream truck! Many thanks to Jake and his Antietam Dairy!

More than one hundred fifty RV's over-nighted on these user friendly grounds where water, electric and a dump station are available. Many who spent the night on the grounds were 'lulled to sleep' by the whistle of a freight locomotive hauling coal to the nearby power station.

The clubs used several air-conditioned buildings for Specialties as well as the Toy, Terrier and Non-Sporting breed judging. Specialties this year included the Maryland Brittany Club, Inc. and the Conestoga Vizsla Club.

Monday evening the Fairgrounds had a free fireworks show for the locals.. a fitting climax to a bang-up weekend!

Harry Miller and I did the Site Contrd thing for the Keystone Cluster at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Believe me this is an up and coming show venue Penn Ridge and Harrisburg Kennel Club now ...but, I can see that changing to a four or five day Cluster adding maybe the York Kennel Club. Charlie Olvis and Liz Muthard are the kingpins. Others really pitching in were Cindy Miller and Susan Watt. Penn Ridge seems to be the ringleader doing the major portion of the setup. Rau was the Super and did a good job!

The stifling ninety-five degree weather outside was soon forgotten once you were inside the new air-conditioned, ninety-four thousand square-foot arena, which lends itself very well to dog shows. Showers are available to RVers. There is ample parking (same as for the Blue-Grey Cluster in April).

Food is available, plus over fifty vendors of doggie related goods and services.

Entries exceeded two thousand dogs on Saturday and Sunday, with one hundred seventy-five Rally on Saturday, and one hundred sixty-five plus Obedience on Saturday and Sunday. Ballston Spa will be sorely hurting from the huge numbers of deserting handlers. The Keystone Cluster will be the 'in' venue of the future!"

Thanks Vince for your insight fil  
reports on such great SHOWSIGHTS!

Mari-Beth O'Neill's AKC Interns presented her with a pearl bracelet, a tiara and sash and two cakes at a surprise birthday party they threw for her at the completion of their summer assignments.

From a third generation of one of dogdoms' special families, Joe Esch was one of this year's AKC summer interns based in Raleigh, North Carolina. During the summer the tall, good-looking son of AKC Judge Tess Esch kept me posted as to the happenings with his special generation training to be the future leaders of our sport. Thought you might enjoy portions of a letter I received from Joe after the interns got together to tell me about their summer.

"The AKC had interns working on summer projects in both New York City, the American Kennel Club Headquarters and in Raleigh, North Carolina, the Operations Center. Each intern was assigned a specific department within the American Kennel Club and given a project, which would be completed in their two month internship.

In addition to myself, Raleigh summer interns were Allison Johnston, Adam King, Whitney Meeks, Stephanie Smith, and Bri Tesarz. The internship

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began on June 6 and all too quickly came to an end on July 28.

I worked for Steve Fielder in the Coonhound Events Department. My project was to create a youth program for Coonhound fanciers. The Coonhound Events Department is currently going through revitalization and part of this renovation was the creation of a youth program. With the launch of the new, all youth website for Coonhounds, I capped off my internship by giving the fresh (fledgling) program a step in the right direction.

Allison Johnston completed her second summer as an AKC Intern. She worked in DNA Operations with Glenn Lycan. Her responsibilities included updating the DNA website pages, writing and editing letters for DNA projects, and completing mailings. Allison also worked for Mari-Beth O'Neill on 4-H and breed presentations. In spare moments, Allison worked with Pat Lejman on Foundation Stock Services files and presentations. Allison was one of the unofficial Intern Social Coordinators, a position which she shared with Whitney and Stephanie. This position allowed the North Carolina Interns to bond and experience some of what North Carolina had to offer outside of the AKC. The events included attending dog shows, movies, and dinners.

Adam King worked in the Canine Health Foundation department where he worked on the Parent Club Health Conference. This is Adam's first year in the Internship Program and of the interns working in Raleigh; he lived the farthest away, in Durham. Adam made a lot of progress with the Parent Club Conference and also managed to enlist all of the North Carolina Interns in the President's Council. Adam also held the record for the interns for the great-

est number of desk moves. At last count, Adam had moved his desk more than five times. Despite these moves, Adam continues to produce quality work from the Canine Health Foundation.

Whitney Meeks was the oldest and most experienced of all the interns. This was her fourth year with the AKC Internship Program. One of the reasons that she has managed to stay in this competitive program was her dedication to her job and her abilities in each project that she has been assigned. This year, Whitney worked in the Web Marketing and Advertising division at AKC for Bob Burns. She returned this year because her school required an internship for graduation. Her internship at AKC not only helped AKC as a company, but also allowed her to fulfill her requirements for graduation. Whitney worked on many projects including various electronic newsletters and yet another brochure to add to her list of published items.

Stephanie Smith worked in the Public Education Department this summer. She is an English/Spanish major at the University of Miami. She coordinated the IIP Live program for the Houston shows and also got to travel to the shows in late July. Other projects included editing the Canine Ambassador and Public Education Coordinator e-mail databases and redesigning PowerPoint presentations for two Houston seminars.

Bi Tesarz worked for Bobby Birdsong in the Event Operations Department. Her project was to revise the Show/Trial Manual and test the online event management system used by show chairpersons. Previously, Bi served her local all-breed club as show chairperson for two of their dog shows, so she had great experience

and hands-on knowledge of the Show/Trial Manual. If anyone has ever seen the Show/Trial Manual, then you know it is an enormous task to go through and edit such a publication.

Another person that the Raleigh items considered to be a part of the AKC Intern program was Jamie Conway, who was hired by the Companion Animal Recovery (AKC CAR). Since Jamie was paid directly by CAR, she was not considered an official AKC intern. However, this did not deter the other Interns from including her in all of their activities and experiences. While working for AKC CAR, Jamie created new marketing materials and reviewed all existing materials. She assisted with the launch of the new website and also helped with the Incentive Rebate Program for veterinary practices and non-profit organizations.

Of course, we can't forget Ms. Mari-Beth O'Neill — the director of the Intern Program and our fearless leader. She provided new opportunities for many of the interns, including times for the interns to learn new breeds and standards along with hands-on demonstrations of Poodles, Bulldogs, English Cocker Spaniels, and Whippets. Mari-Beth made our internship experience much more exciting. There were also four interns that were located in the New York office, Emily Bisso, Julia Nietsch, Kimberly Silva, and Emma Stone.

Emily Bisso worked as an Executive Assistant for Dennis Sprung. This was Emily's second year as part of the AKC Summer Intern program. Emily had several projects including working on a new credit card design for the AKC affiliate program and working on AKC's internal software program, CMS. She also investigated possible charities

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for AKC to consider affiliation and a new pet protection program.

Julia Nietsch worked with the Communications Department for the AKC. She worked on various projects including media campaigns, press releases, and media lists. One of her media campaigns centered on celebrities, their pets, and how it all comes together for the best interests of all involved. Julia also created a presentation about the AKC and some of the hot topics surrounding the organization today. The internship gave her priceless first-hand experience in her chosen major of public relations.

Emma Stone worked in Project Administration for Ron Rella. Her primary project has centered on the AKC's Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). Emma read each nomination multiple times while helping to narrow the ever widening field of nominees. In addition to reading the essays, she also replied to each nomination with a letter of congratulations and a certificate. All past and present essays were compiled by Emma into an album which will remain in the library in New York.

Kim Silva worked in the Publications Department for Erika Mansourian. Due to the very nature of Kim's work, she was constantly working under a deadline. She worked on projects for all the editors, including writing book reviews, creating judges' bios for the AKC/Eukanuba Classic, conducting research in the library, and organizing the photo archives.

As a result of her stellar work, Kim was promoted from AKC Intern to Book Publication Coordinator and now works full time for the American Kennel Club.

We saw several movies together as a group, which included the movie Hitch. We went to several people's

houses to learn about their breeds. I learned about the Poodle, the English Cocker, the Whippet, and the Bulldog. Some of the interns went to shows on the weekends, and three interns took business trips. I went to Saluda, North Carolina and to Brazil, Indiana. Stephanie Smith went to Houston, Texas, and Adam King went to St. Louis, Missouri.

This is pretty much what we did, and what our jobs were about. We worked hard!"

Joe returned to his Connecticut home to help with his family's move and to be with each of his parents for planned surgeries. Prayers and cares for Mike and Tess Esch.

Boasting members from four southern states, the Carolinas' Dog Judges Study Group has just completed a weekend of top-notch Breed Seminars. South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia are the home states currently represented, and the numbers are growing.

Mark your calendar now for their next judges' educational seminars, which will be held in conjunction with the Foothills Dog Show Circuit February 17, 18, and 19, 2006. Featured breeds will come from the Toy and Terrier Groups.

Greenville, Spartanburg and Hendersonville Kennel Clubs combine for three days at one sight the weekend following The Garden. The summer cluster had major entries averaging over twenty-seven hundred dogs per day. Greenville's Palmetto International Expo Center is a state of the art facility located in a vibrant city with exciting opportunities for fun after feeding!

When the AKC Delegates convene at the Crown Plaza at Times Square in New York, I am looking forward to a

special evening session where AKC lobbyist Jim Holt has graciously agreed to come update the delegates on PAWS.

May lessons learned by the devastation of hurricane Katrina bring the delegates to The Big Apple with the spirit of peace, harmony and willingness to work together for the good of our American Kennel Club.

After the sessions some delegates enjoy walking in Central Park. Did you know we have dogdom's own Karen LeFrak to thank for much of what we enjoy in Manhattan's eight-hundred-forty-three acre wonderland?

Karen LeFrak is President of The Women's Committee of the Central Park Conservancy, an association of women dedicated to fundraising for Central Park. Her Women's Committee raises funds to care for the Park's magnificent trees, beautiful landscapes, historic benches, children's playgrounds and the impressive six-mile perimeter. Educational programs and tours are also funded by LeFrak's group.

Annually Karen's committee hosts one of New York's premier charitable events, the Frederick Law Olmsted Awards Luncheon.

Stunningly dressed by Oscar de la Renta, Karen was the loveliest among the couture set at this year's "Think-Pink Garden Soirée," which raised \$2.3 million dollars.

Central Park is a special dog-friendly place. Thanks to the efforts of our own Karen LeFrak, we can enjoy its loveliness with our four-legged companions for years to come.

With Fall in the air, it is time to tailgate! GO DAWGS!

Cheers,

Linda Ayers Turner Knorr

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## FOOTHILLS DOG SHOW CIRCUIT

GREENVILLE ♪ SPARTANBURG ♪ HENDERSONVILLE

MEMORIES CAPTURED BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

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