

July 2004



MONTEREY BAY DOG TRAINING CLUB

# Ruff Notes

## A Letter FROM the Editor

It's as regular as clockwork. No sooner does a new editor take over a newsletter than you can count on reading the "This is YOUR Newsletter." article. Well, it is and it's going to get rather boring over the next several months if the only input I get is for the brags page but that isn't why I'm writing this.

When I first got involved with dogs back in [mumble], a dog was a customary part of the family. You all remember the classical American family: Father, Mother, 2 1/3 kids and a dog? Well, that organization seems to have long since been replaced with Father or Mother (chose one), two kids and no time for them and "Keep away from the dog!"

You can see this attitude in a lot of today's news. Last month we had an article on proposed breeder control legislation in the California legislature. This month we have one on a proposed ear cropping ban in the same venue and a proposed repeal of the act that requires California shelters to try to find the owners of micro-



chipped stray dogs. At the same time, there is a proposal from the AKC "High Volume Breeders Committee" to allow the AKC to carry ads for puppies on their website to increase revenue.

MBDTC is a dog training club not a political action committee but as editor of Ruff

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## From the Presidential Kennel

It's been a busy month! Congrats to Michael and Marion Bashista for putting on another great Agility event for MBDTC. I saw lots of club members out working hard, some even working AND competing---I don't know how you guys do it! I hope we have as many enthusiastic hands at the Obedience Trial coming up next month.

Our club year winds up this weekend with the Obedience Workshop and General Meeting. I know that Judy Force is doing a great job of

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## Obedience Trial Raffle Prizes Needed

Hi everyone, I need your help in making this year Obedience Raffle great. I will be contacting a lot of you for a donation for the Raffle either an item, or if you don't have time to go out and buy something donating some money and I'll do the shopping. I do love to shop. So let's get our thinking cap on and see what item's we have around the house that would make a great Raffle donation. Betty "BG" Garcia, Raffle Chairman

## Legislative Alert

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*From the AP*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (news - web sites) wants to repeal a state law that requires animal shelters to hold stray dogs and cats for up to six days before killing them.

Instead, there would be a three-day requirement for strays.

Other animals, including birds, hamsters, potbellied pigs, rabbits, snakes and turtles, could be killed immediately.

Schwarzenegger has told the state Legislature that the changes could save local governments that operate shelters up to \$14 million.

An estimated 600,000 dogs and cats are put to death each year in California, including 34,000 in Los Angeles alone.

The waiting period has caused overcrowding and forced some shelters to kill off animals sim-

ply to make room for new ones, said H.D. Palmer, a spokesman for the state Department of Finance.



*Your Legislature at work to limit your rights as a dog owner*

"Because of space limitations, the shelters are being forced to euthanize animals who are otherwise highly adoptable immediately after the holding time," Palmer said.

Despite Schwarzenegger's huge popularity, some political observers think the proposal will meet stiff resistance.

"There is no organized constituency of cats and dogs, but certainly the pet owners of America will find this reprehensible,"

said Barbara O'Connor, director of the Institute for the Study of Politics and Media at California State University, Sacramento.

"Cats and dogs are like mom and apple pie," she said. "Don't mess with the pets. Most people prefer them to other people."

The 1998 law is named for former state Sen. Tom Hayden, who said the governor's proposal "will inflict heartbreak on a lot of owners and people in the animal adoption world." *[Editor's Note: Repeal of this law would also eliminate the requirement on shelters to check for microchips on strays and to attempt to locate their owners through the various microchip registries such as AKC or NDR.]*

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## Proposed Bill Would Ban Ear Cropping

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*From the AKC web site*

The Animal Council reports that SB1548, a bill pertaining to veterinary medicine, was amended last week to include a ban on ear cropping for dogs. Violators will be charged with a misdemeanor unless the procedure was done for treatment of disease or injury to the dog. The bill defines "disease or injury" as a condition that impairs normal physiological functioning.

Prevention of ear infections is not considered a valid reason for performing the procedure.

The American Kennel Club recognizes that ear cropping, as described in certain breed standards, is an acceptable practice integral to defining and preserving breed character and/or enhancing good health. We encourage proper veterinary care at all times.

Concerned dog owners should immediately fax, phone or e-mail members of the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions, where SB1548 has been referred. The Animal Council urges fanciers to clearly mark any faxed letters with the following: "SB1548, as amended June 14, Figueroa. Veterinary medicine-  
OPPOSITION"

## Happy Barkday to You....

Best wishes to all our members and their furry friends with birthdays in July:	Date	Dog	Loved by	Breed	Age
Barbara Baker 7/5	3	Heather CD, PT, NA	Pam/Jessica Hetrick	Shetland Sheepdog	13
Noreen Silva 7/6	14	Teller CD	Dale Root/Pam Strametz	Golden Retriever	7
Helene Brodrick 7/14	14	Bradie CD, NA, NAJ, CGC	Marilyn Runyan	Golden Retriever	7
Cindy Snow 7/14	14	Piper CD, NA, RD, CGC	Judy Force	Dalmatian	4
Sylvia Holderman 7/17	25	Howard CGC	Mary Bettencourt	Pug	7
Judy McLeod 7/21	27	Coby CDX, OA, NAJ	Judy Nielsen	Shetland Sheepdog	8
Bob Hupp 7/23	30	Caddie UD, NA, NAJ	Hazel Welborn	Golden Retriever	8
	30	Ch Tyler OA, OAJ	Linda Lang	Golden Retriever	4



## Wags & Brags

### From Linda Lang

**Conformation:** On 5/29 Tyler (Golden Retriever) went BOB at the Misiion Circuit

**Agility:** on 5/30 at the Mission Circuit Agility Tyler (Golden Retriever) took a 2nd place in Exc. A Std. to finish his AX

On 6/6 at the Redwood Belgian Terv Agility Trial in Exc. B Std. Tyler (Golden Retriever) got his fist MX leg.

Amber (Golden Retriever) finished her NAP and NJP in 3 straight at the Norcal Golden Retriever Agility Trial on 4/11. She also finished her OAP in 3 straight at MBDC on 6/13, she currently has 2 OJP legs.

### From: Christine Hastings-Baugh

**Agility:** Logan (Shetland Sheepdog):  
Weimaraner Club 5/22 Q in Excellent JWW,  
5/23 DQ  
TRACS 5/31 DQ  
Redwood Belgian Tervurens 6/5 & 6/6 DQ both days!

MBDC 6/12 DQ and was 4th in Standard  
NoCal Corgi Club 6/19 & 20 DQ both days!

Gracie (Shetland Sheepdog)  
Weimaraner Club 5/22 DQ 3rd in Standard/4th in JWW, 5/23 3rd in JWW  
TRACS-DQ 2 of 3 days and earned her **MACH3** on Memorial day! **1st in MBDC HISTORY!!**  
Belgian Tervurens 6/5 JWW 3rd place, 6/6 JWW 3rd place  
MBDC 6/12 & 6/13 DQ both days!  
6/12 Standard 2nd place, JWW 1st place  
6/13 Standard 2nd place, JWW 2nd place  
NoCal Corgis 6/19 Standard 2nd place  
6/20 DQ, JWW 2nd place

### From: Linda Harbertson

**Agility:** Chalice (Borzoi):  
6/12 MBDC Novice Standard 1st place to finish her NA.  
6/12 MBDC Novice Jumpers 2nd leg, 1st place  
6/13 MBDC Novice Jumpers 1st place to finish her NAJ.

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# Packhiking & Pottys

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*By Dave Wiley via the SamJam mailing list*

Me and the girls(my packhiking sammies and my min-pin, which could be the first packhiking min-pin ever) have seen some incredible things when we go packhiking. Nice scenery, nice walks, good weather, bad weather. We had the weird story of the guy relieving himself which I typed up a couple years ago. Well we've now had our second potty encounter on a packhiking adventure. The story is somewhat graphic in nature, so I've left a lot of that kind of stuff out. Use your own imagination.

We were hoofing it through the cleveland metroparks with about two miles left on our ten mile hike, and we came up to a picnic pavillion area.

Off to the left of us were several port o' lets, and one was being used in a very unusual fashion. There was some sort of cart parked next to the port o' let. Not being a sledder, I assumed it was some sort of training cart when there is no snow, but that was pure speculation on my part. The cart was not the unusual part. The unusual part was there were four siberian husky/ malamute looking dogs in harnesses, all hooked to one gang line (I think that is what it is called). The line was probably 20 feet long, and went directly into the door of the port o' let. The dogs were not hooked to the training cart at all, so it appeared they were out on a port o' let sled

riding mission. I can only assume there was no way to anchor the cart and the dogs while the operator of the cart and dogs was taking care of business, so she got the brilliant idea to just take the gang line into the port o' let and hold on to the dogs while she accomplished her goal.

You are probably thinking the exact same thoughts I was thinking when I saw this little set up. Recipe for disaster. And, of course this story wouldn't really be worth typing if it ended with the woman coming out and driving off with her dogs into the sunset. I am fishing for my digital camera so I can take a picture of the port o' let pulling team when my dogs yank their leashes, almost toppling me over. I look to see what in blazes set my dogs off, and notice that a squirrel has decided to stop in the middle of this wide open space, pick up a nut and chow it while my three dogs and four port o' let anchored sled dogs hang out in that very same field. So far the potty chain gang hasn't seen the squirrel, but it is only a matter of time as my dogs are doing the "If I wasn't on this leash I would kick that squirrels' a###" dance. Sure enough, the potty pullers heads all snap to the direction of my dogs, then to the direction of the squirrel, and they all appear to get the same idea as my packhikers straining at their leashes. My dogs see those dogs spot the squirrel, and some sort of dog

tribal hunting non-verbal communication thing happens, as every one of the seven dogs on either end of the field realizes that its pretty much a race to see which of the two groups can get to the squirrel faster. My dogs redouble their pulling efforts, and the four dog sled team reacted as one, and lunge full steam for the squirrel. The port o' let sort of spins about 30 degrees and rocks like the dickens. Luckily, it doesn't tip over, but kind of rocks back and forth a time or two and then rights itself. Well, that is just unacceptable to the sled team, and they give another huge yank.

The port o' let spins yet again, and from inside the green tower of privacy potty protective custody, some sort of human screech occurs. The screech seemed to slow the port o' pullers down, and they settled into a nervous stand. At this point the squirrel decided my dogs weren't going to get him, and the port o' pullers couldn't get him, so he started doing some kind of "na,na,na can't get me" dance, infuriating the port o' pullers and driving my dogs crazy. If you ever wondered why dog sleds are built long and low to the ground, as opposed to small and tall, like, say, the shape of a port o let, you need not wonder if this is a design flaw anymore. Anyhow, the pulling and barking started up again. The port o' let did its best to stay standing,

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# Packhiking & Pottys

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*(Continued from page 4)*

rocking heavily back and forth. The dogs, sensing port o' let pull over victory forgot completely about the squirrel, and started timing their pulls with the rocking, and of course triumphantly gave one last tug and yanked the port o' let over. For some reason, pulling the port o' let over gave the dogs some sort of satisfaction, and they just stopped pulling after the port o' let settled on ground. I'm not sure what happened to the squirrel at this point, although if he was anything like that insurance commercial where the two squirrels make the car wreck and high five each other, then my guess is he ran off into the woods to get his friends so he could show them what he'd accomplished.

From the port o' let came a series of cuss words unrepeatably in this story, so I figured I'd better head over that way and see if I could help out. The port o' let, unfortunately had landed face

down, meaning the door was now the bottom of the port o' let. I tied my dogs to a tree, and ventured toward the port o' let. I asked if the occupant of the tipped port o' let was ok. She said yes, in a lot more colorful and verbal way than just yes, but for the purposes of this story we'll just say she said yes.

The port o' let hadn't faired as well. You could tell it was hurt because there was a lot of blue fluid leaking from it. I told the woman that I would have to roll the port o' let on its side, so we could try opening the door, and she should find something to hang on to (unfortunately, what else is there to hang on to in a port o' let but the toilet). Well a couple good shoves later, the port o' let rolled 90 degrees and the door was exposed.

The door opened and out crawled mama smurf. The woman in the port o' let had unfortunately been covered in the blue blood of the dying port o'

let. Her dogs came running and decided she needed a tongue bath, which did not make her at all happy. About this point she realized that step 10 in the bathroom process entitled "put your pants back on", had been skipped, and she disappeared back into the port o' let to for lack a a better word, finish. Well, she was in absolutely no mood to talk about her ride on the wild side, which I didn't blame her, so she got the short version of what happened outside the port o' let, and I spared her the indignity of having to recite her version. I helped her hook her dogs up to the cart and off she went, glowing blue as she went drove down the path and back into the metro park woods. I had no idea where her car was, but I can't imagine what all the other metro park people thought as they walked serenely through the park and were passed by a pissed off blue smurf and her merry band of blue tongued dogs.

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## From the Presidential Kennel

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*(Continued from page 1)*

pulling the workshop together, and that I'll be seeing a lot of you out there helping and training. It has been a pleasure working with this year's Board, and it's nice to see that many of us will be coming back next year, with a few new faces. Thank you Marilyn, B.G., Dani, De-

nise, Margaret, Carol, Marion & Michael for a job well done.

The Obedience Trial is coming up---if you don't have a job yet, and you're willing to volunteer, drop me an e-mail at [chthunderstorm@mindspring.com](mailto:chthunderstorm@mindspring.com)



*Tammy Del Conte's Lance*

or call me at 726-7215. We'll be bringing back the Club memorial page for this year's catalog; if you'd like to be included please talk to BG at class or send an e-mail to me. Cost will be \$1 per pet name.

That's it for this time...see you in this same space next month.

## New Test for Heartworm Drug Sensitivity.

WSU (Washington State University)'s Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory has developed a gene test for ivermectin/drug sensitivity that owners/veterinarians can use to identify dogs that have the mutation BEFORE administering various drugs that can result in illness and even death in certain dogs. Individuals then can be treated with alternative drugs or with dosage adjustments to protect them. The test identifies those dogs with one copy of the mutant gene, as well as animal with two normal, or two copies of the mutant gene. Dogs with one copy of the mutant gene can be at increased risk of toxicity; dogs with two copies are potentially in grave danger of toxicity. Dogs with the wild-type (normal) gene can safely be administered drugs like ivermectin. The dogs with the mutated gene can be sensi-

tive to other medications as well. The gene has been dubbed MDR1 for Multiple Drug Resistance gene #1, and normally produces a protein that pumps various drugs out of the central nervous system, for example, thus avoiding toxic build up. Dogs with the mutated gene have a frame-shift mutation that results in a stop codon & so produces a nonfunctional protein. Various drugs can then accumulate in the brain & other tissues, resulting in various neurological and gastrointestinal effects typically. The gene is found in many herding breeds & is widespread in several breeds: in collies current studies indicate that less than 1/4 of the population that is free of ,the gene. Ivermectin sensitivity is found

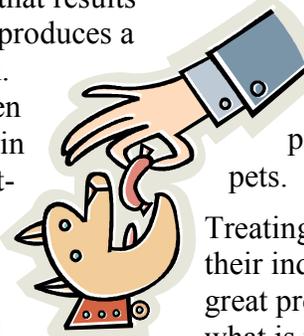
scattered throughout a number of breeds, & although it's possible that other mutations are responsible for drug sensitivities in various breeds, WSU will genotype any dog for the MDR1 mutation.

For more on the service, email: [vcpl@vetmed.wsu.edu](mailto:vcpl@vetmed.wsu.edu) or visit:

[www.vetmedwsu.edu/depts-](http://www.vetmedwsu.edu/depts-VCPL)

VCPL

Genotype testing offers owners a new opportunity to protect their pets.



Treating individuals according to their individual genotype holds great promise for the future of what is now being called pharmacogenetics. Genotype testing also allows breeders the information to control the expression of various traits & so manage disease and limit the spread of various disease-inducing genes.

## Wags & Brags

*(Continued from page 3)*

**Agility:** Belle (Borzoi)

6/13 MBDTC Excellent A  
Jumpers 3rd place to finish her  
AXJ

6/13 MBDTC Excellent A  
Standard 2nd place to finish her  
AX

**From Jane Devlin**

**Agility:** 4/10 Riff Raff (Siberian Husky) finished his AXJ at the Nor Cal Golden Retrievers on

April 10th, with a first place in Excellent Jumpers.

## Hot Dog Award

This month's Agility Hot Dog Award goes to Gracie (Shetland Sheepdog) owned by Chrissy Hastings-Baugh for her 71% performance at the Belgian Tervuren Trial on 6/13.

There is no obedience Hot Dog award this month.

## Member News

Cindy Snow's new address is:

428 Pinehurst Ave  
Los Gatos, CA 95032-3921  
Email: [crasnow@hotmail.com](mailto:crasnow@hotmail.com)  
Home phone: (408)358-0282  
Cell: (408) 821-6619

Jane Devlin's new address is:

4175 Freedom Blvd.  
Aptos CA 95003  
Phone# is (831)722-8883

## AOCNC Interclub Competition Results

Club	Rank	Inter-club	Novice	Open	Utility	Inter-class	# entered	Obedience
<b>Deep Penn</b>	5	552.0	379.0	173.0	-	735.0	4	
<b>Fremont</b>	2	962.5	325.0	294.0	343.5	962.5	11	
<b>Fresno</b>	10	167.0	167.0	-	-	167.0	1	
<b>Mt. Diablo</b>	3	951.5	297.0	343.5	311.0	954.5	11	
<b>Oakland</b>	1	1171.5	389.5	388.0	394.0	1176	22	
<b>San Fran</b>	4	715.5	370.0	345.5	-	894.5	7	
<b>San Joaquin</b>	7	493.0	122.5	196.0	174.5	493.0	4	
<b>San Lorenzo</b>	8	486.5	126.5	164.0	196.0	486.5	4	
<b>San Mateo</b>	6	539.0	176.5	-	362.5	637.0	4	
<b>Santa Clara</b>	9	322.5	322.5	-	-	576.5	5	

## Agility Trial '04

by Michael and Marion Bashista

So we could not prevent the sprinklers from arising and neither of our Labs brought home a green ribbon, but by all other standards the trial was a huge success. One of two MACHs awarded went to Noah, owned by club member Stacey Thompson and handled by Dee Hutton, one of our Agility instructors.

Last year's judge, Debbie Carloni, ran her dogs this year because she had such a good time last year. She loves the laid back, just do it and have fun atmosphere. An exhibitor from Southern California will gladly return next year because of the warm, friendly atmosphere.

And although some of our popularity is location, location, loca-

tion, it really is the work and attitude of our volunteers. From pole setters to scribes to lunch duty, a great big thanks to all.

And we'd like to recognize a few volunteers by name.

We wouldn't have equipment if it were not for Lynn Schmitt who also scribed.

Special kudos to our chief ring stewards, Crissy Hastings-Baugh and Pam Fugitt-Hetrick. They recruited the ring crews and made sure they showed up.

Dale Root and Debbie and Gary Green handled scoring with support from Judy McLeod. Tammy Del Conte handled ribbons. Denise Panzich supervised the check in table along with Marilyn Runyan.

Jessica Hetrick was gate steward and Jane Devlin pitched in when she wasn't running a Husky.

No one entering the raffle missed Dani or Debi. Morning refreshments were gophered by Gayl Dalmau. B.G was our luncheonette lady. Linda Lang did whatever task handed her way.

Rich Torres, Patty Burt, Danny Griffith and Bob Hupp built the courses of our judges Ken Boyd and Bob Long. And when Bob Hupp was not building he was shooting pictures for the club. And he got some great shots.

Chris Hyde and Bob, Michelle Dias and Lynnette Van Epps - Smith worked inside and outside the rings.

(Continued on page 8)

## Letter FROM the Editor

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*(Continued from page 1)*

Notes I intend to keep highlighting issues and articles affecting the breeding, care and ownership of dogs until you, the membership, tell me otherwise. What you choose to do on these issues is up to your own conscience but I would encourage you to get involved lest our whole reason for this club become a thing of the past.

## Upcoming Events

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July 7	Board Meeting
July 13	Watsonville classes start
July 14	Pet Pals, Soquel classes start
July 15	Capitola & Salinas classes start

## Agility Trial '04

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*(Continued from page 7)*

It takes over 50 people to pull off our trial and I apologize because I know I've missed a few volunteers, specially those exhibitors who worked the rings.

We already have our secretary, chair and judges for 2005 and should be returning to Skypark. All we need are for our great crew of volunteers to return too. I am confident they will and that, ribbons or not, we will have a great time again.

July 20	Conformation classes start
July 20	Ruff Notes deadline
July 31	Judges' Dinner



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