

# **Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club**

Official Publication of the Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club

## **HOWLER**

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#### **Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club Board of Directors**

President: Karen Lawrence

Email: karen@mckpapillons.com

Vice President:Jami Meath
Email: <a href="mailto:lhkgsps@gmail.com">lhkgsps@gmail.com</a>
Secretary: Theresa A. Goiffon
Email: <a href="mailto:theresaagoiffon@msn.com">theresaagoiffon@msn.com</a>

Treasurer: Kathy Sianco

Email: silvermoondogs@outlook.com

Director: Glen Kothe Email: info@trdogs.com

Director: Rhonda MeathEmail: <u>gsdgspgirlz@gmail.com</u> Director: Wayne Harmon Email: wfharmon@aol.com

Director: Carol Wirkkunen

Email: <a href="mailto:crwirkk@centurylink.net">crwirkk@centurylink.net</a>:

**Director: Matt Bixby** 

Email:barkyboyzdad@barkyboyz.com

Delegate: Theresa Goiffon

Email:theresaagoiffon@msn.com

## **CMKC Meetings and Important Dates**

# DATE EVENT LOCATION

**2024 BOARD MEETING DATES:** 

JANUARY 8

FEBRUARY 12

MARCH 11 (NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR FOR OFFICER POSITIONS BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING @TOTAL

RECALL)

APRIL 14TH (AWARDS DINNER) CLICK FOR MORE INFO.

MAY 13 JUNE 10 JULY 8

AUGUST 12

SEPTEMBER 9

OCTOBER 14 NOVEMBER 11

DECEMBER (TO BE ANNOUNCED)

Board members Please
plan to attend the following
club meetings, second
Monday of each month
at 7PM



Board Meetings by Tele Conference

**Dial** 720-527-5858 access code: 4258733

6:00 p.m.

For further questions or information about joining the conference calls please contact <a href="mailto:Theresa Goiffon">Theresa Goiffon</a> theresaagoiffon@msn.

#### **CMKC Board Meeting Minutes**

#### October 9, 2023

Present: Kathy Sianko, Carol Wirkkunen, Karen Lawrence, Rhonda Meath, and Theresa Goiffon

#### Agenda

Board Meeting call to order at 6:06 p.m.

Acceptance of the Minutes: motion to accept Carol, second Kathy all in favor.

Secretary Report: none. Newsletter has been published and sent out to members.

Treasurer Report: see email. Balance 46312.75. Waiting for the cluster show check. Motion to accept Theresa first and second Carol all in favor.

Delegate Report: I will be attending the December meeting in Florida.

Committee Report Conformation: Check is due.

Fast Cat: none

Obedience: Getting scheduled for 2024.

Nose Work: none

Agility: working on expense report. Rhonda will take care of ordering and do inventory. Karen will discuss with Andrea.

Discussion about raising price to \$20. Rhonda proposed to increase third run which would make us \$4 more. Rhonda to run numbers by Karen.

Holiday brunch: add dates \$40 per person. 4 course meal. Private room. Holds 50 people. People to bring \$10 gifts.

By laws: Change the new member section to how we do it now.

New Members Old Business First Readings: None

Second Readings: Karen Slackly, German shepherd, sponsors Wayne and Rhonda. Motion to approve 2nd reading motion to accept, Theresa, 2nd Carol, all in favor. Kathy Patregnani, Springers, 2nd reading and accept Rhonda and 2nd Matt Stephanie Warme, Sheltie and Papillons 2nd reading and accept Rhonda 2nd Karen, all in favor. Lori O'Neil Schnauzers and Matt to accept and Rhonda all in favor. Lori Walton Goldens and Cockers Matt to accept, Rhonda 2nd all in favor.

New Business: None

Carol motion to adjourned Kathy 2nd, all in favor. 6:40 pm

General Membership meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

Amy Canaro, Matt Bixby, Andrea Bixby, Wayne Harmon, Carol Wirkkunen, Karen Lawrence, Kathy Sianko, Rhonda Meath, Kay Ferris and Theresa Goiffon

Meeting called to order: 6:41 pm
Kathy to accept minutes, Karen second, all in favor.
Secretary none
Treasurers report: see above.
Conformation
FastCat

#### Obedience Scent Work

Agility: Andrea said sounds good. Currently it's \$19,19 19 and 15 now we propose last run to \$20.

This will be discussed further. Bottom line, Andrea to talk price over with Mike.

Holiday brunch:

By laws: Finalize and send out for vote at holiday brunch.

Adjourn, motion Theresa, second Matt all in favor, 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Theresa A. Goiffon, Secretary

#### CMKC Board Meeting Minutes November 13, 2023

Meeting called to order at: 6:02 pm

Present: Jami, Rhonda, Carol, Wayne, Matt, Jami, Glen, Theresa, Karen and Tara Burr (general member).

Motion to accept the minutes: Matt 1st, second Jami and all favor.

Secretary report: Updated website and fb with Christmas invite.

Treasurer report: Wayne to accept as written. Jamie 1st and Carol 2nd. All in favor Delegate Report: none

Summer Solstice: Judges list is finished, discussion about limiting number of motor homes to make the show safer. To do so it will be detrimental to the cluster. Recommending RVs be 30 feet apart due to Florida fire. That sad incident did not result in being too close. English springers specialty may be added otherwise the same breed specialties. German Shorthair Club Wayne will follow up with that club.

Working on the premium list it is our 25 anniversary of the cluster this coming year.

FastCat question regarding how to lay out the site and Matt's request to change the location was approved by the cluster committee. Matt will ask the Afghan club if they still plan to do the FastCat: Cambridge KC will have Thursday and Friday and German Shepherd Club will have it Saturday and Sunday. Rhonda is chair of this event in August and profits and expenses will be split between both clubs. August 15 through the 18th. Matt asked if the venue been secured yet? Karen said the fairgrounds contract for the location, has not yet been signed. Karen will get that done soon.

Deposit of \$250 due at the time of signing contract.

FastCat next year, August 2024 Fast Cat: Miniature Pinscher Club of Greater Twin Cities holds the contract at the Isanti County Fairgrounds for the dates of August 15-18, 2024 for the area being used for Fast Cat. It had been discussed that CMKC and the MN German Shepherd Dog Club were to use the area at the north end of the Fairground for Fast Cat, and Pay MPCGTC \$200/d, which is what the fairground charges for that area for Fast Cat. MPCGTC will be using primarily the SW section of the fairgrounds for Scent Trial, and a joint effort will be made Friday, Saturday & Sunday to have a lunch shared for workers. Thursday the club holding Fast Cat is welcome to use Hospitality building.

Obedience: Jami completed the paperwork and working on judges. Both events have been approved. February 2,3 and 4th, April 5,6 and 7th.

Scent Work: February 18th. June 8 and 9. Location to come. Possibly Rush City location.

Agility: Next trial in April. Karen working on a budget.

Holiday Brunch: Menu will come out later in November. Member plus one free.

By Laws: Theresa explained proposed changes however changes were not highlighted. She will highlight proposed changes and re email to board.

New members: see glens email. Wayne to accept Barbara, 1st Wayne 2nd Carol, all in favor.

Old Business: None

New Business: Annual dues to AKC was paid. We sent in names to AKC for recognition. Any funds that will cost over \$500 must come to the board for approval.

Theresa to ask Kathy if we can add her address on the new membership application.

Does anyone want a copy of the catalogs that was ever made, Wayne has them and asked. About 40 years of catalogs. How long do we need to save these things. AKC says only need to keep items for 1 year.

Glen made motion to adjourn, all in favor.

Adjourned 6:57 pm

Respectfully Submitted by: Theresa A. Goiffon, Secretary

#### CMKC General Meeting Minutes December 9, 2023

10:26 a.m. At the Lake Elmo holiday brunch

Present: Roger, Carol Wirkkunen, Mary Stoffel, Karen Anderson, Karen and Myron Lawrence, Lisa Nawrocki, Karen Slakey, Ava Rawlings, Tara Burr, Maria Schaal, Jami Meath, Carly Sutheimer, Josh, Grant Gooding, Wayne Harmon, Shirley Knutson, Mark Wackerfuss, Gretchen Hofheins-Wackerfuss, Barb and Greg Bedsted, Glen and Sue Kothe, Kathjy Sianko, Grete Krause, Amy Canero, Dawn Ebberga, Jen Johnston, Rhonda Meath, Terri Meyers, Lori, Sharon and A Schroeder, Diane, Rich and Kristen Gendreau

Secretary Report: None
Treasurers Report: Accepted
Bylaws were sent to all, vote to accept changes to take place at the awards banquet.

Nominating Committee: Positions up for re-election/election:

President Secretary 3 Directors

Volunteers: Gretchen, Roger and Kathy.

March General Meeting

Isanti Police, we donated \$6,205 for equipment and vehicle for a K-9.

April Awards Banquet: Rhonda will coordinate

Put some money into another account.

10:35 adjourn

#### CMKC Board Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024

Meeting Called or order at 6:05 pm

Present: Karen, Rhonda, Carol, Theresa, Glen, and Jami

Meeting call to order

Acceptance of the Minutes: Not everyone read them, will vote for approval next meeting.

Secretary Report: none

Treasurer Report: Treasurer absence. Emailed report accepted Carol motion to accept, Glen second.

All in favor.

Committee Report: Nominating, none

Delegate Report: Theresa will be attending March meeting important vote in March.

**Old Business** 

Cluster Committee Update

Scentwork FastCat Agility

Obedience and Rally February 2-4th. Send out email for volunteers.

New Members: First Readings, Barb Swanson, Border Terriers, trains at Total Recall Karen Anderson and Glen Kothe.

89 paid members including life-time.

Second Readings: None

New Business New title-Fetch. Cluster not offering in 2024.

Kids Fair

Awards dinner and banquet: Date is set, coming.

Other

Adjourn at 6:28 Glen, all in favor

Respectfully Submitted by: Theresa A. Goiffon, Secretary

## CMKC Board Meeting February 12, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Karen, Kathy, Matt, Theresa, Carol, Rhonda, Glen, Wayne, Jami

Minutes: Motion to approve, minutes from December 9 motion made by Wayne and second Carol, all in favor I. Motion to approve minutes from January 8 motion to approve Carol and second Wayne, all in favor I.

Secretary: none

Treasurer: Refer to spreadsheet. Motion to approve Carol, second Glen, all in favor I.

Delegate: Theresa will attend meeting in March and update the club.

Committee Reports

Nominating committee: Gretchen, Kathy and Roger nominated the following:

President: Karen Lawrence Secretary: Theresa Goiffon Board: Emily Wood Board: Matt Bixby Board: Nancy Van Buren

Membership: 67 members paid 90 total members. Glen will send current membership list to Theresa.

Kathy to call Emily to see if she would like to join membership. Kathy will get the answer regarding Emily and will tell the secretary the nominees, which we will vote via email to present to the general membership.

Voting online was briefly discussed. Karen said it works well and Jami said it didn't work when they used it. Voting can be done via electronic by including it to the by laws, however, we have not accepted online voting at this time.

Next meeting: March 11the general meeting at Total Recall. Call In and in person.

Discussed briefly the possibility of using Zoom for our monthly meetings and or a combination or call/
Zoom. Karen will look into some options. In person meeting will also offer call in for board members,
for example for Secretary to take minutes and other board members out of town.

Obedience/Rally: Profit \$1485.45

#### New Membership:

First reading: Valerie McCann Wayne first, Carol second, all in favor.

Second reading: Barb Swanson Wayne first and Kathy, all in favor. Theresa to send barb a welcome to the club packet.

Purchased ribbons first place new title ribbons and grand champions. Jami purchased in bulk. All the new title ribbons are kept at total recall.

Cluster committee: 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cluster. AKC will offer a meeting for chair introductory seminar.

Kathy would like to discuss opening up an account for excess funds, to be discussed at the May meeting. Kathy to follow up with the bank with options.

Juniors program Theresa and Jami will discuss what to do in awarding the kids Theodore, Ava, Grant to make announcement and talk about gifts to give them at the banquet.

Kids fair: Rhonda will not do the kids fair this year. Date for Kids Fair 2024 July 19th.

Motion to adjourn Theresa, Glen second 6:59 pm all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by: Theresa A. Goiffon, Secretary

# CMKC Board Meeting Minutes 3/11/24

The CMKC Board meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm

Present were: Karen Lawrence, Glen Kothe, Carol Wirkkunen, Rhonda Meath, Jami Meath, Josh Moore, Matt Bixby, Kathy Sianko, . Karen Slakey, Dean Cheney and Tara Burr

President Report: none

Secretary Report: none

Treasurer Report: Balance in checking, 56888.57

Motion to accept Treasurer Report by Glen, seconded by Carol, approved.

#### Nominating Committee (Gretchen, Kathy& Roger) – the following are nominated

For the board:

President: Karen Lawrence

Secretary: Theresa Goiffon

Board - Emily Wood

Board: Matt Bixby

Board: Nancy Van Buren

Nomination from the floor: - Tara Burr

Membership application: A second reading for Valerie McCann (Valerie shows Papillons) motion to accept by Carol, seconded by Glen, approved. We will ask Theresa to send a welcome letter to Valerie.

New Business: Wayne (not present) – had spoken to Karen about the Isanti Sheriff's office asking for donations of funds to board their Police dogs when the officers go on vacation. There was some discussion, i.e. they couldn't board their dogs at a regular boarding kennel. Wouldn't they leave their dogs with other Canine officers? We decided to deny the request.

Motion by Glen to donate \$100.00 to Kids Day at the Isanti County Fair, seconded by Matt, approved.

Karen reports that the Isanti 4H requests a new teeter at the cost of 992.87. Discussion on kinds of teeters. Rhonda suggested we ask Mike Teh for his opinion. It was also mentioned by Rhonda that aluminum would be the best choice. Karen motioned we pay up to 2000.00 for a teeter and more equipment if there is any extra money. Seconded by Glen. Approved.

We will also send a donation of \$100.00 to each, Isanti 4H and Chisago county 4H for trophies. Kathy will find out where to send the money.

Motion to adjourn by Jami, seconded by Carol. Meeting adjourned at 6:20

The General Membership meeting of the CMKC was called to order by President Karen Lawrence at 6:30 PM. Present were Jami Meath, Glen Kothe, Carol and Roger Wirkkunen, Karen Anderson, Kathy Sianko, Matt Bixby, Josh Moore.

President report: none

Secretary report: none

Treasurers Report – see Board meeting minutes

Jami talked about forms for expenses for the events.

Karen Anderson – wondered if it is worthwhile to do a one day scent trial with just buried. Kathy hadn't worked out scent trial expense sheet yet.

Nominating Committee:

President: Karen Lawrence

Secretary: Theresa Goiffon

Board - Emily Wood

Board: Matt Bixby

Board: Nancy Van Buren

Nomination from the floor: - Tara Burr

Committee Reports - none

Next Scent Trial is set for June 7,8,9, 2024

Agility Trial date is April 26,27,28, 2024

Discussion on changing the vouchers given to the Agility workers. Seems like what's been offered in the past has run into quite a lot of money. After some discussion it was decided we would change the vouchers to two runs per day for volunteers, spouses included. Motion by Jami, seconded by Tara, approved.

Has Banquet flyer gone out? Matt found it in his email. Suggested we ask Theresa to send again to remind people.

Motion to adjourn by Amy, seconded by Glen. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

Respectively submitted by "substitute secretary", Kathy Sianko.

#### Delegate notes 2024 March Meeting Minutes By: Theresa A. Goiffon CMKC Delegate

As your clubs delegate, I attended the All-Breed meeting than the Parent Club meeting in the afternoon of the 11th, attended the AKC Museum of the Dog reception in the late afternoon. Met with lots of new delegates. Delegate meeting the 12th, overview of financials, activities etc. and voted for two new board members.

These are just my notes: I will follow up with a link to the minutes from meetings once it is posted on the delegate portal.

Suggest local vet techs in school to help at shows, and consider donating to vet techs stethoscopes as a thank you.

Discussion about vet scholarships. Encourage clubs to get local veterinarians involved to let them see first-hand purebred dogs and why they are important.

Federal level farm bill 2023. It is now pushed into 2024. Pleased to say they are listening. Contact your legislators regardless of the legislators position. The bill that changes the law. Big push also better care for animals act. (Look that up). Very dangerous bill. Takes oversight away from animal experts.

Trends on the rise spay and neuters mandatory in the last 6 months. Due to rise in shelter dogs. Bill in New Hampshire, mandating generic testing for example. Hb1102 ban breeding of sale of a dog with Brachycephalic concerns. The bill was not passed bill not ready for consideration at this time. New Hampshire group is very organized, which was very helpful.

Top tips for clubs:

Is our clubs officer list up to date?

Are delegates getting AKC alerts? Doglaw@akc.org. (New website look up)

Share news you hear.

Legislation liaison who is it and register them with dog law AKC.

Advocacy classes for liaison coming up soon.

Major problem in Houston mandating spay and neuter as it's a big issues with stray dogs causing big dog problems. Packs of dogs causing harm to the community.

We need junior liaison for our clubs.

Kindness wins. Fran Stevens, Washington KC.

Avoid gossip, be friendly to new people. Talk to club members we need to be friendly be a leader AKC has the reputation of being snooty unlike UKC. especially stewards... you must be friendly. Good sportsmanship should be posted prominently at our shows.

Puppy confidence program free in the detection dog task program.

Push to get parent clubs to be all breed clubs.

#### AKC now has it's own prescription drug store that you can access here.

Katie Campbell legacy names can be submitted by Parent Clubs.

Juniors Doug Johnson Colorado KC. 150 juniors in Orlando great turn out. Kids had good dogs too. Westminster will have a big event for juniors this year. Working to match up juniors with breeders. To help them become breeders.

Bernie doodle breeder in Wisconsin brought puppies/dogs to an AKC show put on tables, educating public on her mixed breed. She was there for eye exam. We might want to think about what we would do should this happen.

Include semen bank brochure in newsletter.

Discussion on color. Registration data for past 10 years will come out mid March and sent to parent clubs. This year it will include color of dog. In the 90's dogs color codes were established in AKC. So AKC received standard colors from breed club. Dogs non standard color in list go on to AKC and sports services department that will determine interbreeding. They ask for photos, but often there are colors that exist then AKC will register purebred non standard color.

Meet the breeds is very successful. Next meet the breed not yet set.

Group realignments. Is not appropriate at this time. It was derailed primarily due to personal agenda and politics. But perhaps at some time in the future and a review to take place from time to time. Board of directors has authority to move dogs around if desired. In the end the board was asked to reevaluate the breeds and see if they should be realigned. Proposal suggested the board has a schedule reviewed every 5 years at the minimum. Parent clubs will not have say the board of directors decide and present to delegate body for vote.

Someone on Fb posted a very derogatory report about a judge. If you see misconduct, and choose to call the person out on it, make sure to include a copy of the code of ethics.

Vote for board positions: Outgoing board members, kept their board positions: 309 ballots
Dr Carmen 227
Sally 211
Knight 234
Laurie 142

Don't forget about the upcoming awards banquet dinner and annual memberships due in April.





# Congratulations to Karen Lawrence and her many accomplishments with her Papillons!



Manny (GRCH CH MACH MCK American Storm MXS MJB MXF T2B DCAT)



Missy (MACH2 PACH2 MCK American Maid MXS MJS MXP5 MXPS MJP6 MJPS PAX2 XF CGC)



Rowdy JR (GCH CH Mck Jessie James Bond OA NAJ XF DCAT CGC TKN) Got his CGC in Feb.



BeBe (MCK Waltz Of The Flowers NA NAJ) BeBe got her Novice agility titles with Step Warme handling her

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#### CMKC Member Headed to Westminster!

Club member Michelle Wiberg, **DVM of Chrishelle** German Shorthaired Pointers, and her dog Belle, MBISS MBISPH GCHS CH Chrishelle's Beauty IS the Beast RE DJ, finished as the #4 German **Shorthaired Pointer** in both the Breed and all Breed statistics for 2023. As a result of finishing in the top 5. Belle received a special invitation to the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club show held in Queens, NY on May 13-14th at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. Michelle and Belle



will be flying to New York to compete for the first time! Michelle has attended once before, but this will be her first time showing. Belle has been 100% breed/owner/handled by Michelle. They also finished 2023 #2 in the National Owner Handler Series which also afforded them a special invitation to the Royal Canin NOHS finals in Orlando last December. Although they didn't win the breed in the NOHS finals, they did come home with two best of breeds and an Owner Handled Group 1st at the largest cluster in the country! Belle is currently ranked #2 in the breed, #3 in the All-Breed and #1 in the NOHS for 2024. Watch for Michelle and Belle this year at Westminster, as well as at many of the local shows this year.

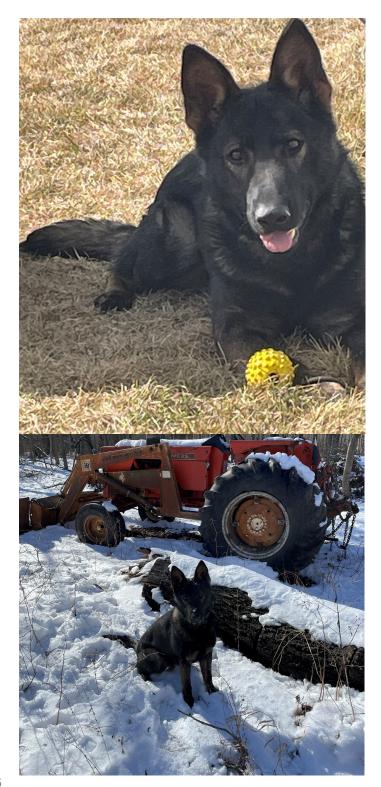
## Congratulations and Good Luck to Michelle and Bella!

## CMKC Supports our local Canine Officers!

Meet...Karma! He is a dual purpose dog, meaning he is certified annually in narcotics and patrol apprehension. Narcotics certification includes methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, MDMA. Patrol Certification – Searching (Man), Apprehension (bitework), Obedience, Article (Evidence) Recovery, and Agility. His handler is police officer, Jacob Miller.







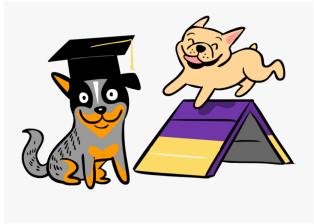
### Congratulations to Lisa Nawrocki and her Papillon, Yoshi!

On March 2nd Yoshi earned PACH4 and at AKC Nationals he ran clean all 3 runs finishing in 12th place for the 4" class.

Here is Yoshi awarded his PACH and the other is with his clean run ribbons from Nationals.







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#### Looking for volunteers to help at the Kids Fair!

Responsible Dog Ownership Day that will be during Kids Day at the Isanti County Fair.

Friday July 19th, 2024 from 8am to noon.

We need volunteers to man the table and bring their dogs for meet the breeds, obedience demo, agility demo and any other talent people have with their dogs.





# Public Service Announcement: Fox Tails: A Hidden Danger for Dogs

Kathy Patregnani a CMKC member, English Springer Spaniel breeder and AKC performance participant, has shared this heartbreaking story of her two dogs, VinEwood's Me Myself & Eye (Me Me) and VinEwood's Old Time Rock 'N Roll (Seger), who suffered from severe infections and associated health issues. The root cause of their illnesses was unbeknownst to Kathy, the presence of foxtails in a field where they were training. In addition to being mindful of the threatening foxtails, this story also highlights the importance of pet health insurance, as Kathy had to bear the financial burden of the treatments, which amounted to over \$31,000.

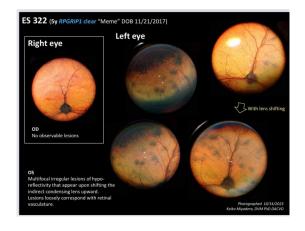
The infections that Me Me and Seger suffered from were likely due to foreign body reactions and subsequent abscess formation. The foxtails embedded in their bodies acted as foreign bodies, leading to inflammation and infection. In Me Me's case, the foxtail migrated to her jawbone and nasal cavity, causing severe damage and leading to the rotting of her jawbone and teeth. The infection spread to other parts of her body, resulting in red spots on her torso. In Seger's case, the foxtail affected his right eye, causing swelling and pain.

The treatment of the dogs involved several veterinarians and specialists, who initially misdiagnosed the problem, it has been a long slow processes started May 2023. It was only after Kathy, the owner, suspected that the infections might be caused by foxtails that the source of the problem was discovered through CT Sans, multiple MRI's and several exploratory surgeries. The treatment involved antibiotics, steroids, surgery, and dental work. Despite the efforts, Me Me still has drainage from three places on her head and face.

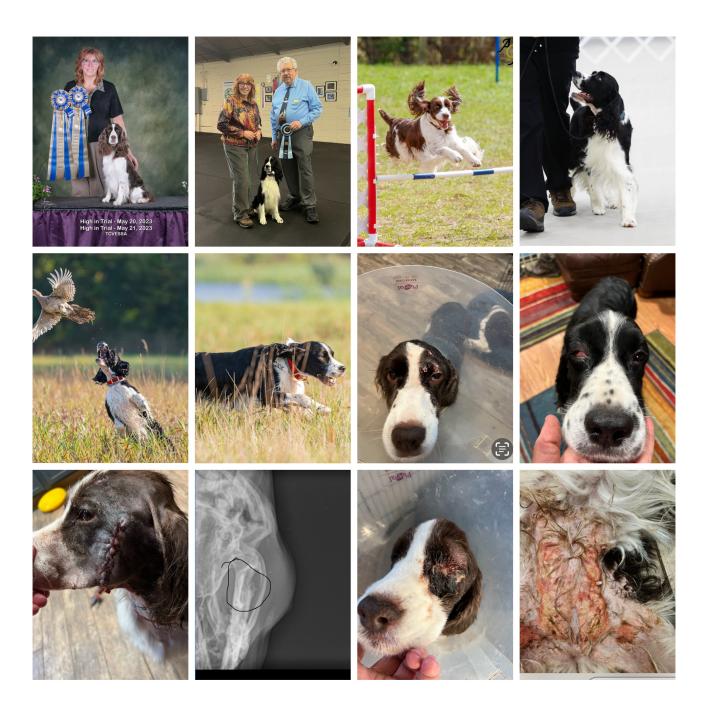
The emotional strain and financial burden on Kathy has been overwhelming. The story serves as a warning to pet owners about the potential dangers of foxtails and the importance of being aware that foxtails might be present. Again, many thanks to Kathy for shedding light on this very important topic.

More information on Foxtails can be found here. <u>Foxtails and Dogs | Animal Health Topics / School of Veterinary Medicine</u>





Warning some photo's are graphic, but it is the reality of what these fox tails can do to our beloved dogs. A few before and the sad after photo's of Me Me and Seger. We hope they make a full recovery soon!



## Congratulations to the CMKC Juniors!

Youth involvement in dog sports is crucial for the future of these events. Not only does it help to pass down the tradition of working with and training dogs, but it also fosters a sense of responsibility, sportsmanship, and dedication in young individuals. The American Kennel Club (AKC) recognizes the importance of getting kids involved in dog sports and has implemented programs that reward and encourage youth participation.

One such program is the Versatility program, which rewards kids who compete in multiple venues with their dogs. By competing in three different venues, kids qualify for Versatility scholarships, which are awarded by the AKC and outside donors. The top ten Versatility juniors are recognized and awarded scholarships, encouraging them to continue their participation in dog sports.

Two standout juniors from this year's competition are Theodore Joshua Moore and Grant Gooding. Theodore, a 14-year-old from Minnesota, was the first-place overall Versatility junior and the number one junior for Rally in 2023. He competed in Rally, Agility, Hunt Tests, Obedience, Conformation, and FastCAT with his dogs. His dedication and hard work paid off as he earned the top spot in the Versatility program.

Grant, an 11-year-old from Wisconsin, was the fifth-place overall Versatility junior and the number one junior for Hunt Tests. He competed in Rally, Field Trials, Hunt Tests, Obedience, Conformation, and FastCAT with his dogs. His commitment to training and competing in multiple venues earned him recognition and a well-deserved spot in the top five Versatility juniors.

These young competitors exemplify the importance of youth involvement in dog sports. By participating in a variety of venues and events, they not only hone their skills as trainers and handlers but also develop important life skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship. The AKC's Versatility program serves as an incentive for kids to get involved and stay committed to the world of dog sports.

As we look to the future of dog sports, it is essential to continue nurturing and encouraging the next generation of competitors. With programs like the AKC Versatility program, we can inspire young individuals to get involved, stay dedicated, and carry on the tradition of working with and training dogs. Theodore Moore and Grant Gooding are shining examples

of the impact that youth involvement can have on dog sports, and their success serves as a reminder of the importance of fostering a new generation of passionate and dedicated competitors.



We are so proud you all! Let's hear what our amazing Junior club members have to say!

#### **Theodore Joshua Moore**

What accomplishments did you achieve in 2023 with your dogs?

In 2023 I showed my two dogs, Hruska and Storm that I trained, and earned Rally Advanced Excellent titles, Rally Master titles, and Beginner Novice Obedience titles on them. I also showed my moms dog Ivy and put a RACH on her all on my own.



What accomplishment are you most proud of?

I am most proud of the Rally Master titles I put on Hruska and Storm because I triaged them myself. I also am very proud of the RACH I put on my moms dog Ivy because it was not easy and she is now almost 11 years old.

What was your favorite event in 2023?

My favorite event was the Duluth Kennel Club show where I won with my dog Storm two of the days earning her first 4 points in conformation.

What are your plans this year for your dogs?

This year I will get to attend the GSPCA nationals for the first time and show in Agility, Rally, Obedience and Conformation.



Do you have a certain goals with your dogs you would like to achieve this year?

I want to put CD titles on my dogs Hruska and Storm. I also want to put a master Hunt title on Storm and continue working on her Championship. I also got a Golden Retriever puppy last year that I plan to start doing obedience and rally with and eventually Agility.

What advice would you give to a junior who is new to this sport?

My advice for a new junior handler would be not to make it about winning or qualifying, make it about having fun with your dog.

## **Grant Gooding**

What accomplishments did you achieve in 2023 with your dogs?

2023 with your dogs?
Prince: Master
Hunt Title, Rally
Advanced Excellent,
DCAT title, Dock
Master title, and won
Winners Dog and Best
of Winners at the
Duluth dog show.
(Sutheimer's Grand
Finale BN RM RAE MH
DCAT DM DS CGC
TKN VCA)



Beau: Rally Master Title, DCAT Title, Best Junior at the GSPCMN Specialty. (CH Little Hunter's Point Blank CD BN RM RAE MH DCAT DS CGC TKA VCX)

Dove: Junior Hunt Title, Rally Novice Title, BCAT title.
(Hunt'em Up's Take Flight RN JH BCAT)

Brooks: Senior Hunt Title (Little Hunter's American Pride RN SH)

Rikki: Junior Hunt Title, BCAT
Title ( Ridgeline's Rikki Tikki Tavi BN RA JH BCAT CGC TKN)

Sampson: DCAT Title and Helped with his Rally Master Title (Sutheimer's Little Firecracker CD BN RM RAE JH DCAT CGC TKI VC)

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Prince's Master Hunt Title. My dad and I went to Iowa, and I ran prince for his last pass at the Iowa Brittany Club Hunt Test.



What was your favorite event in 2023?

The GSPCMN Fall Hunt test. It was a fun event, and all my dogs ran really well for me. Prince went 4/4 Master passes, Brooks went 3/4 in senior Hunt – He earned his Senior Hunt title. Rikki Passed 2/2 finishing her Junior Hunt title. I also ran my setter Lexi and she earned her Junior Hunt title.

What are your plans this year for your dogs?

Hunt Tests, Field Trials, Rally, Conformation, FastCAT and Dock Diving.

Do you have a certain goals with your dogs you would like to achieve this year?

Dove: Master Hunt title and hopefully Derby Field trial Points. Brooks: Master Hunt title. Sampson: Senior Hunt title or maybe even Master Hunt title. Prince: Master Hunt Advanced Title, working towards his NAVHDA UT title and some more conformation.

What advice would you give to a junior who is new to this sport? "Never give up-Keep trying"



### **Ava Rawlings**

What accomplishments did you achieve in 2023 with your dogs?

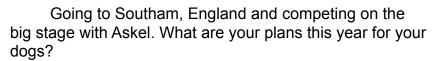
Askel- Making the team for Junior Open Agility World Championship, Wining the 12" superior group in Orlando and winning the Overall 12" group and making it to invitationals.

Haven – finished as the #2 AKC junior handled Australian Shepherd, Earning 9 Best In Show Junior Handlers awards and earning an invitation to Westminster in 2024.

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Traveling for the 1st time with Askel to England. It's a memory I'll never forget.

What was your favorite event in 2023?



Going to more Agility events, attending the Australian Shepherd National, and Westminster.

Do you have a certain goals with your dogs you would like to achieve this year?

Get Askel's First Double Q in Agility, Earning Askel's MACH and Finishing Haven's Championship.

What advice would you give to a junior who is new to this sport

Take your time and fully learn the skills you are working on.

Thank you Jami Meath for interviewing our Juniors for this article!







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Any questions, corrections or if you wish to share news for the next Howler issue, contact the editor Theresa A. Goiffon at <a href="mailto:theresaagoiffon@msn.com">theresaagoiffon@msn.com</a>