



NOMAD NEWS

Northern Magic Agility Dogs

JANUARY

2007

WINTER CLASSES

The following is a listing of registered participants in winter classes. **Please refer to the October newsletter for times and dates and classes** (see revised dates for March classes).

2007 winter classes	Jan. 1st Class	Jan. 2nd Class	Feb. 1st Class	Feb. 3, 10 2nd Class	Feb. 17, 24 2nd Class	Mar. 1st Class	Mar. 2nd Class
Name	Lead-Out	Jumping	Handling	Seesaw	Weaves	Games	Run 4 Fun
Karen Clark	X		X				
Val Spadaccini	X					X	
Judy Kessler				X	X		X
Lynne Von Trapp	X		X				X
Caroline McKinney	X	X		X			X
Fran Bartholomew	X						X
Kit Erskine	X		X	X	X		
Fiona Robertson		X					
Billie Marsh	X						
Cynthia Guillard	X			X			
Linda Kelly							X
Linda Ladd					X		
Judy Mulhern					X		X
Dan Grahovac			X	X	X		
Kate Carter		?		X	X	X	X
Bee Ryan						X	
Lori Brown		X					
Scott Brown		X					
Louise Johnson		X					
Total	6	5	4	6	6	3	6
Working Spots Available	0	1	2	0	0	3	0

Note: The March classes will be held on March 3, 10, 24 and 31 due to Elicia Calhoun seminar.

There are working spots available for jumping, handling, and games. We are opening up the games class to registration by individual weeks. The cost per week is \$15 or \$50 for the 4 weeks. The proposed schedule is:

March 3: USDAA Gamble, March 10: NADAC Chances, March 24: USDAA Snooker, March 31: CPE Wildcard.

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Freedom Farm Winter Practice News

Questions From Your Editor— Caroline McKinney

I would very much appreciate feedback from those of you who are reading this newsletter. Are there things you would like to see that you are not seeing? Are there things that you are seeing that you would prefer not to see? Would you like to volunteer to be a roving reporter? Or are you just blissfully happy with the way things are?

Suggestions anyone? You can email me at mayamck@pshift.com

Date	Type of Practice	Faciliator
1/7	Basics & Fundamentals	Sam Puchar
1/14	Regular	Facilitator needed
1/21	Run Thru	Kit Erskine
1/28	Regular	Lisa Barrett
2/4	**Regular	Facilitator needed
2/11	**Basics & Fundamentals	Facilitator needed

**Please note that the practice change for February. The first Sunday of February (2/4/07) will NOT be a Basics and Fundamentals practice, but a Regular practice due to conflict with the pre-novice seminar with Elise Paffrath. The second Sunday (February 11) will be Basics and Fundamentals. Please contact Kim Rubin to volunteer to facilitate, and don't hesitate to use the Facilitator Mentor, Kit Erskine, for assistance with ideas, strategy and sequence/course designs. Also, please contact Kit with any questions, concerns or comments regarding practices – whether general or specific.



Elise Paffrath Winter Mini-Seminars-

As of Dec. 22, there are still openings in the mini-seminars. You can download a registration form at www.nomadagility.com or the NOMAD Yahoo web site. For more info or to receive a registration via e-mail attachment or snail mail, please contact Karen Clark at CookieDog@juno.com or 802-527-8355.

PARTICIPANTS:

Novice

Sun., Jan. 14, 9-12 at Wildwood, Waterbury, VT
Karen, Judy K., Judy M., Caroline.

Advanced/Masters

Sun., Jan. 14, 1-4 pm, at Wildwood, Waterbury, VT
Bee, Lisa B., Roberta, Billie, Kit.

Pre-novice

Sun., Feb. 4, 9-12, at Waggles, Williston, VT
Judy K., Cynthia.

Novice/Advanced

Sun., Feb. 4, 1-4 pm at Waggles, Williston, VT
Lisa, PJ, Karen, Judy K., Caroline.

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President

Lynne von Trapp _____ 253-7673

Vice-President

Karen Clark _____ 527-8355

Treasurer

Linda Ladd _____ 879-3461

Secretary

Kim Rubin _____ 899-3382

e-mail: som13@aol.com

Members at Large

Don Denette _____ 872-8767

Kit Erskine _____ 586-9932

Patty McMahon _____ 434-3423

Directions to Wildwood horse arena in Waterbury, VT - Interstate 89 to exit 10 (Stowe/Waterbury). Go north on Rt. 100 about 1 mile (towards Stowe). You will pass Ben & Jerry's on the left. Turn right onto Guptil Rd. Follow for 1.5 miles. Driveway is on the right, immediately after a bridge. Mail box says 1526 Guptil Rd. Driveway is fairly long and curves uphill to the barn. You can just barely see the barn from the road. IMPORTANT, please drive very slow, 5 mph. Park parallel to the barn facing the lower pasture. Please leave the space closest to the barn for the instructor.

<http://nomadagility.com/>

BRAGS

Apparently I have done it again. I left out the wonderful accomplishments of Judy and Minna. They have worked hard for these titles and certainly deserve to be recognized for them. So.... please see below.

July 23, Breeze thru Agility CPE trial

Judy Kessler and Minna

Level 1 Colors _____ Q
Level 1 Wildcard _____ Q
CL1-H Title

Oct.21-22, BoGee Agility CPE trial

Judy Kessler and Minna

Level 1 Standard _____ 1st and Q
Level 1 Fullhouse _____ 1st and Q
Level 1 Snooker _____ 3rd and Q
Level 1 Jackpot _____ 2nd and Q
CL1-S Title

Virginia Beskoff (who is in new orleans for the winter) emailed this brag for the newsletter to Kim

Virginia Besthoff's corgis Ruby and Sam enjoyed a trip to a resort in California in November to participate in the corgi nationals. While they were not allowed to try any Sonoma wines, they did get to frolic with many corgis and hike to the Pacific Ocean. Sam finished his AJP and earned a leg in advanced rally. Ruby was the fastest corgi but the top agility title was earned by a MACH 5 corgi who was retiring. He qualified on 4 of 4 runs while Ruby qualified on 3, but we all know who was the cutest. Ruby now has her AX and AXJ.

Please send your brags to Caroline at mayamck@pshift.com using the format shown above.

1st: Date, Name of Club, Venue

2nd: Dog and Handler's names

3rd: Class tab placement and/or Q

THANK YOU

I wanted to thank NOMAD for the lovely 'Honors' plaques presented to me this fall for Piper's & Kolby's achievements. It was a great gift and much appreciated. This past season has been difficult as I lost both my dogs this summer. Not to death, but lost them as competition partners.

Piper who is absolutely the best dog, friend, companion, & agility partner I have ever had has been diagnosed with cataracts. I don't know 'when' will be her last run. I don't know 'when' will be the last time she looks up at me with her spark and affection. This isn't the way I had envisioned her retiring.

Kolby who has been my 'Goof Ball' and is definitely a challenge on course, has been diagnosed with arthritis in his neck & back along with fighting Lyme and Anaplasma both transmitted by Ticks. So, I don't know 'when' will be his last run. He's only turning 6 this winter and is finally matured into a dependable partner. This isn't 'when' I'd envisioned him retiring.

These honors were not easily achieved this summer and so, the plaques mean so much more to me now as they will be our last together.

Thanks again,

Kathy Fretz

Piper & Kolby

NOMAD COMMITTEES

This list is a compilation of those that signed up at the fall meeting and indicated such on the renewal form. Please let Billie Marsh know if there are committees you want to participate in and are not included and vice versa.

Alternative Trial (needs a chair)

Lisa Barrett
Randi Barrett
Fran Bartholomew
Don Denette
Kit Erskine
Cynthia Gilliland
Amy Haskell
Maxine Holmes
Billie Marsh

Demo

Lori Brown
Kit Erskine
Lynne von Trapp

Equipment (needs a chair)

Lisa Barrett
Randi Barrett
Scott and Lori Brown
Don Denette
Roberta Dumas
Kit Erskine
Maxine Holmes
Judy Kessler
Patty McMahon
ValerieS padaccini
Lynne von Trapp

Membership (needs a chair)

Fran Bartholomew
Nancy Dashnaw
Kit Erskine
Cynthia Gilliland
Nancy Johnson
Judy Kessler
Kimberly S. and Jamie Rubin

NADAC

Co Chairs: Caroline McKinney and Karen Clark
Randi Barrett
Lisa Barrett
Fran Bartholomew
Scott and Lori Brown
Don Denette
Roberta Dumas
Kit Erskine
Amy Haskell
Maxine Holmes
Ruth Kaufmann
Judy Kessler
Linda Ladd
Billie Marsh
Patty McMahon
Lynne von Trapp

Outreach/Junior Handling

Fran Bartholomew
Kimberly Ingraham

Practice/ Lessons

Kit Erskine
Kimberly Ingraham
Kimberly S. and Jamie Rubin

Seminar

Chair: Karen Clark
Randi Barrett
Fran Bartholomew
Karen Clark
Kit Erskine
Ashley Fischer
Kimberly Ingraham
Robin Magee
Billie Marsh
Sharon Nolan
Lynne von Trapp

USDA

Lisa Barrett/ Lynne Von Trapp Co-Chair
Lisa Barrett
Don Denette
Kit Erskine
Amy Haskell
Maxine Holmes
Louise Johnson
Judy Kessler
Linda Ladd
Caroline McKinney
Lynne von Trapp

NOMAD SPRING SEMINAR

with *ELICIA CALHOUN*

Agility with Elicia Calhoun

Elicia Calhoun is a top National and International competitor and trainer! She was a member of the 2001 AKC World Agility Championship Team that won the gold in Portugal. She is a five-time member of the AKC World Team! In 2003 she was a member of the Team that won Bronze in Lievin, France. That same year she and Suni placed 5th in the individuals – the best ever finish for a North American dog and handler team. In 2003 and 2005 she and Suni also were AKC national champions.

A top ten finalist at both the AKC & USDAA National Championships since 1998, Elicia and her dogs have also been ranked multiple times in USDAA's Agility Top Ten since 1996. She and her Australian Shepherd, MACH 2 Suni ADCH, have been televised while competing at large competitions on Animal Planet, Outdoor Life Network, ESPN and ESPN2 numerous times since 1998

She has been an instructor for Clean Run Camp (VA) and Power Paws Camp (CA) since 2000, and MANY other groups across the country since 1996. She is also one of the few Americans that have taught internationally: in Austria in August 2003 and in Switzerland October 2003. She was so popular she was asked for a return engagement in the fall of 2004. Since then she has been to Japan twice, most recently returning Christmas Eve 2006!

She owns 5 dogs, Suni, Leg-0, Iceman, Nika and Bre-Sea. Elicia began agility in 1994 with her Lab/Greyhound mix Jettie and within 2 years Jettie had earned her Agility Dog Championship title. Jettie then went on to be ranked in the USDAA's Agility Top Ten for the next two years. The process was even quicker with her next dog Suni, MACH 2 Slydrock's Solar Power ADCH, an Australian Shepherd. Suni earned the same top honors as Jettie, but this time she earned them within 9 months of her debut. During the same period, she also achieved top ten placements at each of the three National Agility Organization Championships.

Elicia's approach involves:

- Handler & Dog Communication
- Strong Team-Oriented Attitude
- Improving the Dog and Handler relationship
- Understanding how to listen and learn from the dog
- Keeping FUN in Equation

Elicia's Teaching focuses on:

- Improving team dynamics through clear communication
- Identification of the needs of both the dog and the handler
- Trouble Shooting, Agility Theory, And much more...

Friday March 16, 9a.m. to 5p.m. there will be a one-day session for **beginner dogs**. Dogs do not have to be registered in Nomad and do not have to be proficient on all equipment. There will be a limit of 8 working teams.

\$105 working member
\$120 supporting member

Saturday March 17, 9a.m. to 5p.m. there will be a one-day session for **novice/intermediate dog and handler teams** with a limit of 8 working teams. All dogs should be competing in novice or be trial ready.

\$105 working member
\$120 supporting member

Sunday and Monday March 18 & 19, 9a.m. to 5p.m. will be a **2-day advanced/master's seminar** open to 9 working teams. Courses will be AKC excellent and USDAA master's/grand prix type.

\$210 working member
\$225 supporting member

If you have any questions about the seminar contact Sharon Nolan (802-893-0098).

*****IMPORTANT NOTE***** IF THIS SEMINAR DOES NOT FILL WITH NOMADERS BY JANUARY 31, IT WILL OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Seminar Registration Form

Class _____

Date _____

Fee _____

Dog's name _____

Handler's name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please send registration form and check made payable to NOMAD, to Sharon Nolan, 14 Field Ridge Dr., Milton, VT 05468,

Dogs must be able to work in a group class setting.

Refund policy - If for whatever reason a participant can not attend the seminar, their spot must be filled to be able to receive a refund. If the seminar committee has a wait list, the spot will be filled from that. If there is not a wait list, it will be the participant's responsibility to find someone (who is at the appropriate level for that seminar) to fill the spot, in order to receive a refund.

This seminar will be held at Wildwood horse arena in Waterbury. Directions are on page 2 and will be in the March newsletter

DOG LETTERS TO GOD

Sent by Judy Kessler

Dear God,
How come people love to smell flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another? Where are their priorities?

Dear God,
When we get to Heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it the same old story?

Dear God,
Excuse me, but why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not one named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We dogs love a nice ride! I know every breed cannot have its own model, but it would be easy to rename the Chrysler Eagle the Chrysler Beagle!

Dear God,
If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?

Dear God,
When my foster mom's friend comes over to our house, he smells like musk! What's he been rolling around in?

Dear God,
Is it true that in Heaven, dining room tables have on-ramps?

Dear God,
If we come back as humans, is that good or bad?

Dear God,
More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.

Dear God,
When we get to the Pearly Gates, do we have to shake hands to get in?

Dear God,
We dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent IDs, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?

Dear God,
Are there dogs on other planets, or are we alone? I have been howling at the moon and stars for a long time, but all I ever hear back is the beagle across the street.

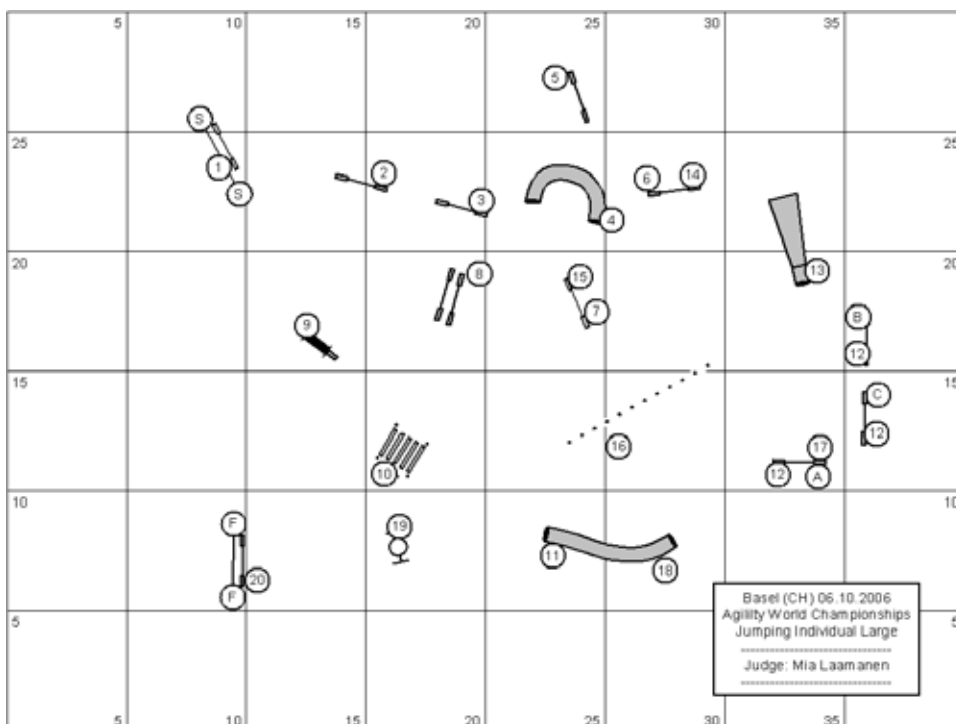
Dear God,
Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God,
Is it true that dogs are not allowed in restaurants because we can't make up our minds what NOT to order? Or is it the carpets again?

Dear God,
When my family eats dinner they always bless their food. But they never bless mine. So, I've been wagging my tail extra fast when they fill my bowl. Have you noticed my own blessing?

Dear God,
I've always lived at the shelter and I have everything I need. But many of the cats here have names and I don't. Could you give me a name please? It would be good for my self-esteem.

Dear God,
The new terrier I live with just peed on the Oriental rug and I have a feeling my family might blame me 'cuz they think I'm jealous of this stupid dog. Since they have no sense of smell, how can I convince them I'm innocent? Does PetsMart sell lie detectors?



Here is a tricky course from the 2006 Agility World Championships. How would you run it?

MENTAL MANAGEMENT

Reprinted with permission from Lanny Basham's *Mental Management.com's e newsletter*

"Don't Keep a Diary, Keep a Performance Journal"

by Lanny Bassham

Most of us take a lesson from a coach at some time in our life and we all self-coached every day. Has this ever happened to you? Your coach asks you "How have you been doing?" and you say something like "OK, I guess!" You say that because you just cannot remember what you have been doing because you have no record of it. I believe that the primary reason people do not keep a record in a performance journal is that they have never been given a really good reason to do it and because they have never been taught how to do it.

OK! Here is why you MUST record your progress in a Performance Journal. I'll give you three reasons. First, because you cannot manage what you do not measure. Simply put, you cannot afford to be in the dark as to your progress. You need to have a plan to reach your goals. So, you set a goal, make a plan and go to a competition. Let's say you do not reach your goal at that competition. If you have a well-documented performance journal you can easily determine if your plan failed or you just failed to work your plan. Winning is not an accident. You must plan your work and work your plan.

Secondly, I will not coach an individual without a performance journal and if you are a coach you should demand it of your performers. Why, because without one you are wasting a lot of time when you try to coach someone. I know, by referring to the performance journal of my performers, how often they are practicing, how long the practice lasts, what went on in the training session or competi-

tion, what worked and what did not work, what the objective of each session was and if it was accomplished. I know what equipment was used, when a change in equipment occurred and the reason for the change. I know what the competition results were, what the weather was like on the course and the start time of the event. And what is even more important is that if I can determine this level of information from the analysis then the performer can as well. How does a coach know this amount of detail if someone does not record it? I am not willing to trust my memory or that of the student on these critical issues. No journal, no coaching from me. You can't manage what you can't measure.

Finally, if you are using the journal only to record information you are not maximizing the use of a performance journal. I believe that the primary benefit of a performance journal is to build Self Image (see the next article). Self Image is built primarily by imprinting both real and rehearsed images. It seems that those images that are written down have a greater impact on the Self Image than those that we simply think about. Our system called Performance Analysis, the performance journal that we recommend and sell, is designed to do all of the things that I mentioned above in the article and to grow your Self Image circle at the same time. We do this by encouraging the performer to fill out the success analysis, solution analysis and goal statement steps in our prepared sheets. *Performance Analysis, The Ultimate Performance Journal is available at Mental Management.com.*

New Members

Grace Smith has joined NOMAD as a Junior Handler. She has completed "Beyond Basics" Agility class at Waggles and has taken Private lessons at Waggles also. Grace's Border Collie, **Click** is only 10 months old, and is not quite ready to be a NOMAD member yet, but will join us soon when he has learned all his obstacles!

Grace learned about NOMAD at the Champlain Valley Expo demo a few years ago, and is interested in helping with next year's demo!

New Dog Members

Ivy and **Rose** have insisted that it is time they join their mother Heather and their "Uncle" Charles as NOMAD dog members. In addition to their "home schooling", they have attended lessons & classes with NOMADers Fran Bartholomew, Elise Paffrath, and Kim Ingraham. Ivy also attended a "Young Dog" Seminar with Jen Pinder. They are looking forward to participating in NOMAD Pre-novice seminars, and just wish that they could clone their handler, that way they wouldn't have to take turns going to class! Ivy and Rose are English Springer Spaniels who will turn one year old in January. They live with **Cynthia Gilliland** and the aforementioned Heather and Charles in Wilder.

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Compiled by Cheryl French as of 12/29/06

FEBRUARY 2007

February 3; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Tartan Gordon Retriever Club; American K9 County; Amherst, NH; Opens: 11/29/06; Closes: 1/19/07; Limit: 330 runs; Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

February 10; AKC; Open to all purebreds; American Bullmastiff Assoc.; American K9 County; Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/5/06; Closes: 1/26/07; Limit: 330 runs; Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

February 17-18; USDAA; Open to all dogs; AgileDogs Agility Training; High Goal Farm; Greenwich, NY; Limit: Unlimited; Email: Val@agiledogs.net ; Website: www.agiledogs.net/trials.htm .

February 17-18; ASCA; Open to all dogs; ASCNE; American K9 Country, Rte. 101, Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/13/06; Closes: 1/30/07; Limit: 350 per day; Classes: Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers - Retired Exhibition (Sunday); Pre-Novice Regular Sat & Sun; Contact: Jean Janotta, 24 Country View Drive, Raymond, NH 03077, 603-895-5436; Email: jjanotta@verizon.net ; Website: http://67.15.203.23/~ascne206/calendar.htm .

February 17-18; CPE; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Agility; All Dogs Gym and Inn; 505 Sheffield Rd., Manchester, NH; Opens: 1/5/07; Closes: 1/20/07; Limit: 400 on Sat., 300 on Sun.; Classes: Standard, Jumpers, Snooker - Fullhouse, Jackpot, Colors; Contact: Sue Fountaine, 536 South Willow St., Manchester, NH; 603-327-7322; Email: miniaussies5@comcast.net ; Website: www.alldogsgym.com .

February 24-25; CPE; Open to all dogs; Riverside K-9 LLC; Riverside K-9 Center, 48 Bridge St., Nashua, NH; Opens: 12/28/06; Closes: 1/31/07; Limit: 375 runs each day; Classes: Game Classes Only; Contact: Valori Duff, 252 Boynton St., Manchester, NH 03102; Email: valwaussies@comcast.net . Website: www.k9cpe.com or www.riversidek9.com .

MARCH 2007

March 8-11; AKC; Open to all purebreds; American Bullmastiff Assoc.; Eastern States Exposition; West Springfield, MA; Opens: 1/3/07 ; Closes: 2/17/07 ; Limit: 1980 per day; Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

March 10-11; CPE; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Agility; All Dogs Gym and Inn; 505 Sheffield Rd., Manchester, NH; Limit: 400 on Sat., 300 on Sun.; Classes: Undecided; Contact: Sue Fountaine, 536 South Willow St., Manchester, NH; 603-327-7322;

Email: miniaussies5@comcast.net ; Website: www.alldogsgym.com .

March 17-18; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Schenctady Dog Training Club, Inc.; High Goal Farm; Greenwich, NY; Opens: 1/17/07 ; Closes: 2/24/07 ; Limit: 330 per day; Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

March 17-18; CPE; Open to all dogs; agile Dogs Agility Training; Stephentown, NY.

March 24-25; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Leap Agility of Cental MA, Inc.; Mt. Holyoke College Equestrian Center; South Hadley, MA; Opens: 1/17/07 ; Closes: 3/3/07 ; Limit: 660 per day; Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

March 24-25; USDAA; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Agility; All Dogs Gym and Inn, Manchester, NH; Closes: 2/26/07; Limit: Unlimited; Classes: Grand Prix Qualifier, Steeplechase Qualifier - Team Tournament, Performance Versatility Team Event and Performance Speed; Trial Secretary: Trial Secretary Services, Judy Davis; Email: tss@trialsecretary.com ; Websites: www.trialsecretary.com and www.alldogsgym.com .

APRIL 2007

April 7-8; ASCA; Open to all dogs; WASCUNY; High Goal Farm, 68 Louse Hill Rd., Greenwich, NY; Opens: 2/20/07; Closes: 3/21/07; Limit: 350 per day; Classes: Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers; Contact: Wendy Cerilli, 68 Louse Hill Rd., Greenwich, NY 12834, 518-692-8758; Email: agility-training@yahoo.com ; Website: www.geocities.com/wascuny .

April 14-15; NADAC; Open to all dogs; Maplewood Assistance Partners, Inc.; Wrentham Developmental Center, Patterson Rd., Wrentham, MA; Opens: 2/12/07; Closes: 3/19/07; Limit: 700 per day; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Contact: Katrin Andberg, 12 Maple Ave., Foxboro, MA 02035; Website: www.pond-house.com/maplewood .

April 14-15; USDAA; Open to all dogs; Y Agility; ASCO Farms; Chatham, NY; Limit: Unlimited.

April 14-15; CPE; Open to all dogs; Breeze Thru Agility; Minchester Stables, Newfane, VT; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: One Ring; Contact: Elise Paffrath at 802-254-1209; Email: elise@breezethruagility.com ; Website: www.breezethruagility.com or www.k9cpe.com .

April 21-22; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Burlington Obedience Training Club; Sports & Fitness Edge of Williston, 115 Wellness Drive, Williston, VT; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: 350 per day; Opens: 2/12/07; Closes: 4/7/07.

April 28-29; USDAA; Open to all dogs; K9Logix; Franklin County Fairgrounds, Wisdom Way, Greenfield, MA; Limit: Unlimited; Classes: Standard, Jumpers, Gamblers, Snooker, Pairs Relay; Level Restrictions: Starters/PI and Advanced/PII Only; Contact: Sharon Wirant, 59 Aldrich Rd., Westmoreland, NH 03467, 603-399-4813; Email: events@k9logix.com ; Website: www.k9logix.com .

April 28-29; DOCNA; Open to all dogs; Flying High Agility at Sugarbush Farm; Sugarbush Farm, Stephentown, NY; Opens: 3/1/07; Closes: 4/14/07; Limit: 325 per day; Classes: Undecided; Contact: Janet Weyers, 124 Gale Rd., Williamstown, MA 01267, 413-458-3646; Email: janet@flyinghighagility.com ; Website: www.flyinghighagility.com .

April 28-29; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Scottish Terrier Club of New England; Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds, Emerald St., Wrentham, MA; Opens: TBD; Closes: 4/7/07; Limit: 999; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

MAY 2007

May 5-6; NADAC; Open to all dogs; Northeast Agility Enthusiasts; Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, MA; Limit: Unknown; Contact: Erin Ayres Wajda, 479 Taborton Rd., Sand Lake, NY 12153; Email: trialsec@northeastagility.com ; NAE@northeastagility.com ; Website: www.northeastagility.com .

May 5-6; USDAA; Open to all dogs; ACE Agility Club; Dufresne Park, Granby, MA; Limit: Unlimited; Email: ray.wheeler@the-spa.com .

May 5-6; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Talcott Mountain Agility Club; Westfield Fairgrounds, Westfield, MA; Opens: 2/28/07; Closes: 4/14/07; Limit: 660; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

May 12; USDAA; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Agility; All Dogs Gym and Inn, 505 Sheffield Rd., Manchester, NH; Limit: Unlimited; Classes: Standard, Jumpers, Gamblers, Snooker, Pairs Relay, Steeplechase Qualifier, Other - Performance Speed Jumping Qualifier; Level Restrictions: Novice/PI and Advanced/PII only; Trial Sec.: Judy Davis, Trial Secretary Services, tss@trialsecretary.com ; Website: www.alldogsgym.com .

May 12-13; CPE; Open to all dogs; JAZZ Agility Club; High Goal Farm, Greenwich, NY; Limit: Unknown; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Contact: Julie Belles; Email: crkrjkkd@aol.com ; Website: JAZZAgility.com .

BOOK REVIEW

How Dogs Think

What the World Looks Like to Them and Why They Act the Way They Do

By Stanley Coren

Free Press, 2004, \$14, paperback

Reviewed by Kate Carter

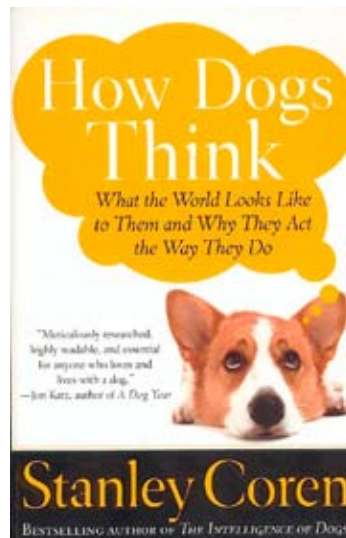
Did you know your dog sees the world in shades of yellow, blue and gray, and that her peripheral vision is 270 degrees? Did you know that the highest pitched sound she can hear is four octaves beyond the piano keyboard? Do you know what Jacobson's organ is, or why your dog's nose is the strongest of her five senses? When you think about it, you really don't know all that much about your dog, do you?

In *How Dogs Think*, Stanley Coren explains how all five senses—sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste—work in dogs, and how they compare to the same five senses we humans have. He then explains how dogs process their sensory information; in other words, how they think. Citing exhaustive studies performed by numerous universities and training centers all over the world, Coren describes how a dog learns to survive in the world, beginning the day it is born, when its first imprint comes from what it smells: mommy! Then comes touch, followed a few days later by sight, sound and taste. Any interruption in the process will affect how the dog behaves as an adult.

How Dogs Think is not a training book nor is it a book about dog behavior. It's a scientific book that explains in layman's terms how dogs see the world and how different their reality is from human's. Once you begin to understand how dogs process information and problem solve (think), you will begin to understand why some training practices work better than others, and why dogs behave the way they do.

I first thought *How Dogs Think* would read like a text book and I would struggle through it one page at a time. I was completely wrong. It's a fascinating, fun, entertaining book that will leave you looking at your favorite different species in a completely new way. Every time I throw a Frisbee I remember that my two Frisbee nuts see yellowish gray, not pink and green. Boring to me, but they don't seem to care. And when they are intently sniffing something that looks like a mere pile of leaves, I think of their Jacobson's organ, located behind the roof of their mouth, gathering all the odors, distilling them, and sending a ton of information to their little brains. And by the way, the longer the dog's nose, the bigger the Jacobson's organ and the better the dog can smell.

Stanley Coren is a professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia and a recognized expert on dog-human interactions. He has written several other books about dogs, including *The Intelligence of Dogs*, *Why We Love the Dogs We Do*, and *How to Speak Dog*. His latest book, *Why Does My Dog Act That Way?: A Complete Guide to Your Dog's Personality*, was released in December, 2006, and is available in hardcover. I haven't read it yet, but after reading *How Dogs Think*, I expect I'll be reading all of Coren's books.



May 12-13; NADAC; Open to all dogs; Northeast Agility Enthusiasts; Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, MA; Limit: Unknown; Contact: Erin Ayres Wajda, 479 Taborton Rd., Sand Lake, NY 12153; Email: trialsec@northeastagility.com ; NAE@northeastagility.com ; Website: www.northeastagility.com .

May 12-13; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Providence County Kennel Club; Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds, Emerald St., Wrentham, MA; Opens: 3/7/07; Closes: 4/21/07; Limit: 660; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

May 19-20; AKC; Open to all purebreds; Lab Ret of Greater Boston and Colonial Shetland Sheep-dog Club; Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds, Emerald St., Wrentham, MA; Opens: 3/21/07; Closes: 4/28/07; Limit: 660; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

May 19-20; CPE; Open to all dogs; SoBAD; Dufresne Park, Granby, MA; Limit: 700 per day; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Website: www.sobadagility.com .

May 19-20; USDAA; Open to all dogs; NEAT; Wakeda Campgrounds, Exeter Rd., Hampton Fall, NH; Open: 3/1/07; Closes: 4/30/07; Limit: Unlimited; Classes: All Classes/All Levels, Grand Prix Qualifer, Performance, Junior Handler; Contact: Tina Bayer, PO Box 494, Stratham, NH 03885-0494; Email: NEATrial@verizon.net ; Website: www.neatclub.com .

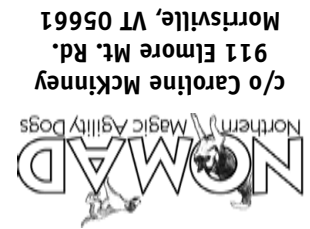
May 26-27; ASCA; Open to all dogs; ASCNE; Hopkinton Fairgrounds, Contoocook, NH; Limit: 350 per day; Classes: Regular, Jumper, Gamblers - Retired Exhibition (Sat.); Pre-Novice; Contact: Jean Janotta, 24 Country View Drive, Raymond, NH 03077, 603-895-5436; Email: jjanotta@verizon.net ; Website: <http://67.15.203.23/~ascne206/calendar.htm> .

May 26-27; CPE; Open to all dogs; North East Miniature Australian Shepherd Club; Westminster, VT.

May 26-28; USDAA; Open to all dogs; Y Agility; Saratoga Springs, NY.

May 26-28; AKC; Open to all purebreds; LEAP Agility Club; Dufresne Park, Granby, MA; Opens: 3/14/07; Closes: 5/5/07; Limit: 750; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com .

The above listed events are in the following states within a reasonable driving distance for most of us: MA, ME, NH, NY and VT. Please note for some events full information is not yet available. Please contact Cheryl French (Cheryl.P.French@Adelphia.Net) with any corrections of the events. Sources include www.cleanrun.com, www.akc.org, www.trialsecretary.com, www.pawprinttrials.com and various other sources.



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Send letters and articles
by the 22nd of the month.
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