



NOMAD NEWS

Northern Magic Agility Dogs

DECEMBER

2013

USDAA INTRODUCTORY TRIALS

NOMAD is holding four USDAA Introductory Trials at Wildwood Farm in Waterbury Center. The trials will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on November 24, 2013, January 26, 2014, February 16, 2013, and March 9, 2014.

Kit Erskine will design the courses and be the friendly, supportive judge in all four trials. Entry forms and test schedules will be available under Event Calendars at USDAA.com and NOMADagility.com.

Intro trials offer straightforward courses, your choice of jump heights and A-Frame heights from extra-low to high, an informal, supportive atmosphere, and lots of fun. Ask someone who has attended an Intro Trial in the past!

For handlers who want to train in the ring and reward with toys, dogs can be entered FEO ("For Exhibition Only"). Less experienced dogs and handlers can run for Intro Qs, rosettes, and titles. Most of our Intro Trials have only 10 to 15 dogs in each of four classes. The smallness of the trials creates a very informal atmosphere which can create a great experience for everyone.

Does your green dog need some trial experience in an atmosphere that isn't overwhelming? Intro Trials are designed to meet that need. Does your experienced dog's performance deteriorate at trials? Brush up on those skills and surprise the dog with a toy in a trial atmosphere!

Any dog that is at least 14 months old can enter these trials. Entries close about a week before the trial date.

We can use as many volunteers as we can get. Come see what Intro Trials are like and help us gate, time, scribe, build courses and set bars.

If you have any questions about these trials, email Lisa Barrett at mytmuts@yahoo.com.

SEMINAR WITH AMANDA SHYNE, APRIL 12, 13, & 14 2014 AT THE WATERBURY BARN

Amanda's Bio:

Amanda Shyne has been competing in dog agility for 10 years. She and her Border Collie Dilly were the 2007 and 2009 USDAA Northeast Regional Grand Prix of Dog Agility winners in the 22" class. The team was also a USDAA Dog Agility Steeplechase finalist at the Cynosport World Games in 2008 and 2009, and a USDAA Grand Prix of Dog Agility finalist at the World Games in 2007, 2008, and 2009, placing 3rd in 2008. At the 2010 AKC National Agility Championships, Amanda and Dilly won the AKC International Jumpers class and the combined International Jumpers/Standard class.

Amanda is a tenured professor of Psychology at Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts and teaches classes in statistics, learning, dog evolution, and animal behavior. She is a frequent agility seminar presenter and can be contacted at amandashyne@gmail.com.

We are very excited that Amanda is coming to Nomad for the first time! Due to the overwhelming response to our fall seminar, we have added a third day to our Spring seminar.

REGISTRATION: Registration is open immediately. In order to allow an equal opportunity for all interested in attending, all registrations postmarked on or before Feb 1, 2014 will be considered as received on Feb 1, 2014. In the event, the registrations postmarked on or before Feb 1, 2014 exceed the limit (each day is considered separately), a random draw will be conducted and a wait list established for each day. All registrations postmarked after Feb 1, 2014 will be accepted by date received; a random draw from those will be conducted as needed to select from registrations received on the same date. Closing date is Feb 28, 2014. There is plenty of time for questions about this process. Please contact Billie Marsh at marshb@westelcom.com with questions.

If you would like to attend multiple days, please fill out separate registration forms, send separate checks & indicate your order of preference. If the working spot limits are exceeded, same dog/handler team will be restricted to one session.

REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 2

NEW DOGS

Kathy Fretz has a new nomad member: **Slider**, a 14 m.o., unneutered, male Australian Shepherd.

Linda Kelly's new girl, **Jessie**, an 18 m.o., English Springer Spaniel and

Jen Hammond's new boy, **Mac**, a 4 y.o. Border Collie have joined. Please give them a warm greeting when you see them.

Saturday, April 12th is for Intermediate Teams;

Sunday April 13th is for Masters Teams;

Monday April 14th is for Novice Teams.

9:00 to 5:00 each day.

Working Members: \$100 per class;

Supporting members \$140 per class.

EACH SESSION IS LIMITED TO 10 TEAMS.

Nomad members may audit for free, without your dogs if possible.

SEMINAR WITH AMANDA SHYNE. APRIL 12, 13, & 14, 2014.

**MAIL REGISTRATIONS TO BILLIE MARSH,
110 NAPPER RD, WESTPORT, NY 12993.**

CHECKS PAYABLE TO "NOMAD".

YOUR NAME/ DOG'S NAME: _____

SESSION (circle one):

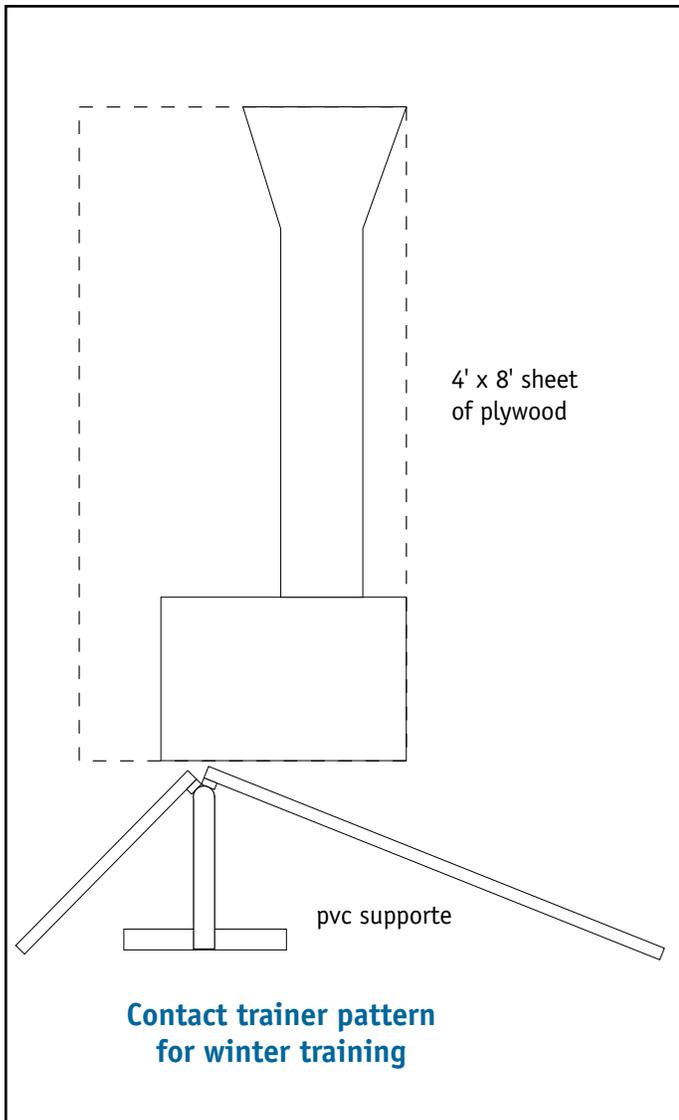
Saturday (Intermediate)

Sunday (Masters)

Monday (Novice)

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____



<http://nomadagility.com>

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President: Lisa Marcus, lisamarcus@comcast.net

Vice-President: Judy Frey, rjfrey2@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Linda Ladd, vtladds@comcast.net

Secretary: Sarah Albert, sarah@vmlink.net

Members at Large

Joanne Lawton, joanelawton@aol.com

Marty Abair, corgitown@yahoo.com

Roberta Dumas, ilvcallie@comcast.net

Spiritdancer got her MACH!!!

11 yr old Spiritdancer outdid herself last weekend at the Colonial Shetland Sheepdog trial, and earned the last 2 double q's needed for her AKC MACH! It's amazing how motivating liver-wurst can be! In addition to the huge gorgeous ribbon, she also got a chair with MACH embroidered on the back!



ADCH, ATCH-C, MACH Spiritdancer, EAC, EJC, EEC & a very proud Maxine

November 3rd, BARK USDAA, All Dogs Gym, Manchester, NH

Gemma and Lynda

Veterans Jumpers, 12 _____ 1st & Q
(out of 3, all which Q'd!)

Veterans Snooker, 12 _____ 1st & Q

HEATHER'S RETIREMENT RUN

Heather had her retirement run on Sunday, Oct. 27 at the Muddy Paws CPE trial. Ever since she completed her C-ATCH 6 and 5000 point level title in June, I have been planning that this would be her last competition. Muddy Paws is our "home" trial site, so it was the right place and we were surrounded by friends.



Heather's retirement run went just as I had hoped. She did a nice job on the course- and as we finished, many friends knew it was her last run and were waiting to greet us. Judge Lola Grab invited us to take a victory lap- which made it even more special. I had ordered a carrot cake from Denise Corley's sister Nancy-known for her decorating skills! Heather LOVED having her own piece of cake and also helping others eat their cake and clean the icing from their fingers. It is a gift to be able to finish a career on our own terms, and I am thankful that we had the opportunity to "do it our way"!

CYNOSPORT 2013

FROM JOHN AND LISA MARCUS, AND THEIR MUCH LOVED CAVALIERS

We are back from the USDAA Cynosport World Games in Murfreesboro, TN. It was one of the best experiences we've ever had. We drove about 1200 miles each way in the RV with our dogs. On the way down we spent the night in the driveway of a friend who had moved from MA to VA, and were able to let our dogs run in her fenced yard at night and before we left in the morning. The weather was unusually cold, but not compared to the NOMAD winter barn, so we were well prepared. We had so many great runs I don't have time to brag about the individual dogs and their results. Elmo made the Performance Speed Jumping and Performance Grand Prix semi-finals, which was our goal. It will be his last big event. He has competed at one previous Cynosport and one AKC National, and he will turn nine years old on Friday. I am so proud of him, he is my first agility dog and the ultimate ambassador for Cavaliers in agility. Lisa had some gorgeous runs with Gib. She and Bonnie also got to participate in a demo for the local television news station, at 5:00 am! We each brought a puppy with us to socialize. They were amazing, meeting people and dogs, hanging out and watching the competition, and playing tug in the middle of all the activity. Needless to say they got lots of attention from the other competitors. We saw amazing runs from the world's best handlers and dogs. We also saw our friend and NOMAD member Kit lay down some beautiful runs in between his usual professional gate stewarding duties. What a thrill and we are so happy for him and I hope he brags to the list himself. We kept busy the entire time and I fell way behind on email and sleep! I worked with a couple of USDAA judges at night building courses for the next day. When the competition was done in the last ring for the day (late in the evening) we had to clear all five rings. The facility crew then came in and worked the dirt for about two hours with tractors, chopping it up, watering it, and smoothing it out. We then built five courses, and any classes that were running in multiple rings had to be built exactly alike. It took three people to measure the location of each obstacle to the inch, and two people to go back and set the angle. The other courses were built by pacing distances from the center line, like we do at many local trials, and I got to lay out most of those courses including the semi finals without any adult supervision. Some nights it was after midnight when we finished, and I had to get up for the 6:15 am briefings. I would highly recommend everyone try to attend a big agility event at some point, even if you are not going there to try to win. I know many NOMAD members have competed in or volunteered at these events, and they can all attest to this. And I didn't even mention the vendors, we did some shopping too. I have had a constant smile on my face since we left Sunday evening, but now I need a nap before I return to my regularly scheduled life!

FROM KIT AND LICKITY SPLIT

I want to start with a thank you to ALL of you who have supported Lickity and me; not only at Cynosports but at trials, classes and practice over the years of our journey.

We left for Tennessee from the Breeze Thru trial where my nerves got the best of us and I really don't know how we did. We took our time driving down arriving Tuesday night and an early 6 AM briefing and later walk thrus. The Walk Thrus were an event in themselves as we were all assigned to a group and then given a ring and time to walk. We had 125 in our 22" only group F; so the split us into two groups but it still left a 60+ crowd for the seven minutes walk.

We ran most of our runs in the "back rings" 4 & 5 where there was no heat but, as John said, our winter barn practice made this no issue. Our first class was a warm up standard and we were nervous and missed dw contact and got a refusal on a jump. We walked Steeplechase Quarters at 12:10 and ran in a



Great Dane Photos

class of 125 dogs, at 4:55. It was a course taking the AF twice so I was happy with that and we ran well enough to finish 85th out of 463 dogs. We were in the Semi finals (OMD!!!) I never dreamed we would get there(although Lisa's last comment to me was ..."see you in the semi's"

Thursday was Jumpers and Snooker. We walked at 6:40 and ran around 11:45. We were smooth and solid and finished clean. Snooker was in ring 3 in the main area. I planned a very conservative run of 1-4;1-5;1-6 and we ran as planned as #7 was a split weaves and we had never done that in completion so I planned to miss it and still Q. We did.

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CYNOSPORT CONTINUED

Friday was Gamblers which we walked d at 7 AM and ran around 2 PM. It was a timed Gamble so if we were over time we would loose all our Gamble points. I went with a conservative plan with jumps tunnels and an AF with four jumps in the closing. All went as planned. Steeplechase Semi finals were walked at 7:40 and we ran in ring one around 12:45. We were scheduled to be in ring 2 so we would be on the live stream but that morning they changed the ring so no live stream for us...Phew! We missed the weave entry and he quickly reloaded but I started to push and sent him off course at the exit of the second set of weaves. I was so proud to have made it this far!!!

Saturday was Team Standard and I was really mentally pooped by this point. We walked at 7 AM and ran soon after at 8:45. We were a bit slow but managed to be clean!!!

When I wasn't running I got to gate the main ring and feel the excitement of the semi and final rounds of the big classes. It is always so much fun!! My voice just made it to Sunday and we packed to go to Charlottesville VA for a two day Camp with Jen Pinder and Mary Ellen Barry We had a blast there and learned a lot about the timing and placement of Blind crosses as well as running fast for serps and backside combos!

Friday we stopped off for a few classes at BARK where we picked up our second master standard Q, a Gamblers Q and a Snooker Super Q!

It has been the best two weeks of my life! I never had so much fun, support and success!

Home, tired and proud!

COLD WINTER NIGHT

by Pat Nolin

There is freezing snow on the road.

I am really late getting home.

No matter the hour, the dogs are glad.

They don't care if the roads are bad.

I've got chores to do. I will be a while.

They are so happy. I can't help but smile.

The horses are mad waiting for food.

They give me a hard time.

They are in a bad mood.

It takes me longer my hands are cold.

I tell them if they can't behave they are going to get sold.

They are in the barn.

The wind has stopped.

All is quiet. All is dark.

I hear them munching on their hay.

The dogs are waiting. They want to play.

I guess it really wasn't such a bad day.

