

66 The Shepherd News 77

14th Issue

Edited by : S. McCormack.

ADMISSION OF OTHER BREEDS TO TRAINING CLASSES

On being approached by numerous owners of other breeds, requesting to be trained by our Club, it was decided at the Committee Meeting of August 9th; 1960 after very careful consideration and discussion; to admit other breeds to our Training Classes under the terms of the following Motions :-

"Other breeds will be admitted to Training Classes and will be known as 'Training Members' with no Shepherd Club privileges other than social functions. The fee will be £1.1.0 per year."

Definition of 'Training Member' :-

"A 'Training Member' will be defined as the following - An owner of a breed of dog other than a German Shepherd who accepts training instructions under the supervision of Club trainers."

It is hoped that in making this training available to owners of other breeds that we will in some way help to relieve the 'dog menace' and educate the general public in making their pets good mannered citizens of the dog world, rather than owning canine hooligans.

We feel also that the general public may come to realize that the Obedience Training given to our Shepherds is not something special - because they are those "Dangerous Alsations" but that it applies to all dogs - from a tiny Australian Terrier to a huge St. Bernard.

To date the response to these classes has been very pleasing and we hope to see the classes grow bigger and bigger.

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ARMANDO BRUNHILDE KCC Ch.

Out of 756 entries judged by Mr. R. Philp N.S.W. at the recent Ladies Kennel Club Show Armando Brunhilde was awarded the Challenge which made her K.C.C. Ch and also won the trophy for Best Shepherd of Show & Best Opposite Sex Group 5. Congratulations Mrs. Reid!

BEAU THE PATHFINDER

From what I had read about guide-dogs and from my experience with Arnold Cook's Dreena, I had formed the impression that all guide-dogs were quiet, placid creatures but Beau was a whirlwind of energy, jumping up and moving around at dizzy speed.

However, In a few minutes he calmed down and sat beside me, sat sideways with his hind legs thrust out to one side as a puppy sits. Even after six years he rarely sits straight. I tried to talk to him but I have found it difficult to talk to animals although over the years I have realised that a dog learns more from one's voice than from one's actions.

However, my instructress assured me that I had a good voice for commands. She had been observing our reactions to one another and was apparently satisfied that we suited and would make a team.

For the next few days I looked forward to my daily meetings with Beau and our twice-daily outings which took place rain, hail or shine. I soon began to "get the feel" of the handle as he stopped at kerbs to await the "forward" command and the slight hesitation as he stepped up on to the pavement after crossing the road.

Unfortunately my fellow-student's dog lost a claw and had to be withdrawn from training so I finished my course alone.

After a week of training with Beau I was allowed to take him home with me. I did everything wrong in introducing him to his new abode but Beau's intelligence triumphed over my lack of knowledge. There was a hectic encounter with the cat, which resented Beau's intrusion and tried to put him off the premises. I have learnt since that I should have sought the trainer's advice on introducing a guide-dog to other animals. Pus has since learnt to accept Beau as a member of the family but has never become really friendly.

When going to bed that night I decided to put Beau's bed in the kitchen and leashed him to the leg of the kitchen-table. I didn't know then that a guide dog should never be tied up.

Beau apparently knew more than I did for ten minutes after I went to bed he joined me, having chewed through his leash. He slept beside me that night and ever since then he has never been more than a few feet away from me, night and day.

At first, the responsibility of having such a valuable dog weighed heavily upon me. I was afraid of losing him, but that fear has passed as we have come to understand one another.

Each day of training brought new experiences and new triumphs. Beau had been taught to understand the words "Right" and "Left" and would turn corners according to the commands.

Always in those early days, the trainer was a pace behind me and this gave me the confidence I lacked, particularly when crossing a busy street. I would listen for oncoming traffic before giving the command "forward", but I knew that if I gave the wrong commands or timed my commands badly, the trainer's quiet voice would correct my mistakes.

Gradually I gained confidence so that the corrections were seldom needed and the training period laid the foundation of implicit trust in my canine guide.

. . . To be continued.

VETTING NOTES

Extracts from "The Popular Alsatian":

Infections of the Pads & Claws -

Some dogs are very prone to swellings between the toes, and in bad cases there may be severe lameness. The reason why these cysts appear is not known, but they may be associated with skin disease elsewhere on the body. Large cysts should be removed, as it is not sufficient just to incise them, as they may recur. Some dogs soon recover, but in others the affection may prove intractable and resist all forms of treatment, although a course of injections may help.

Interdigital eczema is also common, the skin between the toes and pads becoming very moist and painful. A bland dusting powder is a great help, but the foot must be kept bandaged (an old sock is useful) to prevent the dog aggravating the condition by licking.

Small particles of soil, tar, etc, may cling to the hair between the toes causing lameness. The pads themselves may be injured by foreign bodies such as glass, thorns, etc.

The first treatment obviously is to remove the offending body, after which the wound can be dressed and bandaged. Excessive exercise on hard ground can also cause sore pads.

If a dog, as is sometimes the case, walks through acid, the foot should be washed in a solution of ordinary washing soda. If he has walked through lime, water should not be used, but the affected parts immersed in oil.

Attention must be paid to the claws and clipped with strong nail clippers when necessary. * * *

FRED'S OVERSEAS REPORT

Bremen - 19.8.60.

I went and saw a Semi-Final Obedience Trial for working dogs. Semi-Final because the two first dogs in this Trial will compete for the title "All German Champion for Working Dogs".

The work the dogs had to do was carried out in 3 parts.

Part A : Tracking and seeking back.

Part B : General Obedience i.e.

Heeling, Staying, Retrieving and Jumping.

Part C : Attacking and guarding a criminal.

Compared to our way of test, this seemed to be very hard, but the average work done by these dogs was very good. The two best were Shepherds -

No. 1 Ezzo - Railway Police
Hanover. 286 pts.

No. 2 Tngo von Grohnschlag -
City Police Station
Bremen. 283 pts.

(The possible was 300).

So you see they were really working dogs, but one thing - I must say for pets and friends, "Our dogs are better behaved, as these were a 'Fighting Force'."

That's all for now.

Fred Lehrman.

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We would like to bring to the notice of our members that we have available

TRAINING BOOKS

These are a valuable guide to the training you give your dog at home, and projects the methods and instructions you receive in Training Class.

Price: 3/-

INFORMATION ON ALSATIANS OR GERMAN SHEPHERDS

Government Attitude:

Commonwealth and State Governments in Australia use Alsatians but continue to ignore the harsh Federal and State laws which so heavily penalise this breed, and further acts of suppression being passed against them.

Justice and fair play seem to have deserted the people responsible for this state of affairs, in fact it is an insult to common sense that it is allowed to continue.

Give the German Shepherd in this country the same chance to prove his worth he is given in the rest of the world, and he will show that in intelligence, devotion and unsurpassed ability to be trained he is an invaluable asset to the country.

Categorically no charge of mis-demeanour can be made against a German Shepherd Dog that has not been equalled many times by other breeds.

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The foregoing has been extracted from a paper written by the newly formed German Shepherd Dog Club of Australia.

This Club with 2 representatives from each Shepherd Dog Club in each State has been formed for the special purpose of fighting this anti Shepherd faction and to bring about a "better deal" for our Shepherds.

Eventually the Club propose putting the case to Parliament in the endeavour to raise the Import Ban on these dogs.

We realize of course, that a lot of water must pass under the bridge before this comes about, as we know firstly the Press and general public must be educated to accept our dogs with an unbiased mind.

Nevertheless, we now have an active body operating on a nation-wide scale - "Doing something for our dogs".

This Club's representatives for the German Shepherd Dog Club of Australia are our Secretary Bill Stephens and Committeeman Colin Mitchell, and we assure you that you will be kept up to date as progress is made.

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- PRESENTATION OF AWARD MEDALS -

A presentation of Award Medals by Mr. Fairney will take place on Sunday morning, October 2nd at 10.45 a.m. to those dogs who have passed their qualifications for C.D. & C.D.X.

All members with their dogs are requested to attend this important event as it marks a very important stage of our Training Classes.

For the benefit of newcomers to our Club, here is an explanation of the presentation of these awards.

"Club Title Medals will be awarded to dogs that have been trained at the Club Training Ground for their whole Obedience Trial period."

These medals were introduced to inspire incentive in our members to attend the Trials and have their dogs qualified, and we are very glad to say that they have brought results, as the majority of dogs qualifying through our Club have been in the period since their introduction. All of our dogs can win a medal, it only needs enthusiasm.

A cry heard around town -

"STOP THAT FLYING RED HORSE"

He will put wings on your cart, especially when Dave Carnegie forgets to command him to "Stand Stay".

Dave's horse bolted recently with his baker's cart.

Just goes to show, even horses can take the Obedience Training our dogs get - so Dave might even take on classes for horses on the side.

Imagine - Flemington Race Course the horses are lined up at the barrier the crowd is hushed - then a voice from the crowd (Dave's) yells - "Stand Stay" - the starter lets the field go -

But what happens?! The rank-outsider, the only untrained horse in the race, leaves the field standing at the barrier and goes on unopposed to win at 100/1. . .

There could be a fortune in it for Dave.

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CORRECTION

The item appearing in the last issue of "Shepherd News" naming the trophy winners for Novice Dogs in the Trial held on July 3rd should have read :-

Novice Dog : Mr. A. Granich's
"Armando Brumbear".

Incidentally, Armando Brumbear has now gained his C.D. qualification.

See Kevin Kyrgger - Agent for your
T.V. Colour Screen - Price £4,18.6.

The Club suffered a very sad loss recently, when one of our original Club dogs - "Norville Ricardo C.D." known so well to us all as Ricky, owned by Col Kitchenmaster, died of cancer.

Ricky figured in many demonstrations and was greatly admired and loved by all who saw him perform his tricks - a favourite being Ricky working blindfolded.

He was also the teacher of many new handlers and pups by his demonstrating to our Training Classes with Col the correct way to work.

We all join in offering our sympathy to Col and his family in the loss of Ricky who has gone to romp on the "Happy Hunting Grounds".

"PRINCESS DOES WELL"

Dave Carnegie's new dog "Princess" has no doubt given him a glow of pride and pleasure by gaining her C.D. qualification in just 3 short months of ownership.

Princess was given to Dave untrained when approximately 9 months old and her response to Dave and his training has been a pleasure to see.

With 100 points on her last 'leg in' her average for the 3 trials was 96.

Congratulations Dave on a job well done !

FOR ALL DOG & CAT MEDICINES

B. LLOYD & CO. CHEMISTS
(A.E. Bell & K. Lloyd)

Cnr. Moorabool & Lt. Malop Streets

Phone 2814

Geelong

Members !

Members !

Members !

"Shame on you!"

Where are all those entries for the Open Parade?

There has been some wonderful trophies donated and we thank all those on the Committee who did such a good job in obtaining them.

This Parade is held especially for your benefit. Sad to say, your response has been very, very poor.

DOGS ON T.V.

A movie film is to be made of our dogs at training in the near future and will be shown on T.V.

A definite date has not been set because we want as many as possible to take part - but - we must present a very high standard of work. So it is up to you, the members, to attend Training regularly and train your dog at home regularly.

When the Supervisor of Training considers the standard has been achieved, the photographer will be notified - and there you'll be on T.V.

We wish to remind members also that Training must commence sharp at 10.00 am to enable a full two hours of training. So let's see if we can get up a little earlier on Sundays!

shows the dogs must be benched for inspection by the general public unless the special permission of the Committee of the K.C.C. is obtained. Any Special Prizes offered for competition at shows must be in addition to the prize money offered.

67A. An "Open Parade" is an exhibition of registered dogs at which no money is awarded. Wins at parades do not count at subsequent shows, but such wins shall count at subsequent parades. Unless otherwise provided, the word "Parade" in these Rules shall include "Open," and "Members".

COMPETITION AT SOUTHERN O.D.C.

A competition will be held on the grounds of the above Club, Dunblane Road, Noble Park, Sunday October 2nd. Excellent trophies and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cards for each Class.

Each class will have two judges, one to give command - the other to act as steward.

1. Dogs who have never been in a trial.
2. Dogs who have been in a trial but not passed.
3. Dogs who have one or two passes in CD.
4. Dogs who have C.D. only.

(Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 to be held in the form of a novice trial).

5. Dogs who have C.D. or C.D.X.
(To be conducted as an open trial).

6. Dogs who have C.D.X. or U.D.
(To be held in the form of a utility trial).

Those entering Class 6 must also enter 5 and the points of dogs entered in these classes will be totalled to determine the winner.

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Extracts from K.C.C. Rules book - for the benefit of those newcomers to the "Dog World".

DEFINITIONS : 66. A "Show", is an exhibition of registered dogs at which award cards and money prizes are awarded. In the Case of Championship