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Shepherd News 99

24th Issue.

Edited by : S. McCormack.

O B E D I E N C E T R I A L - D E C . 3 R D .

With a sigh of satisfaction, we have yet another successful Trial behind us, being our third and last for the year, and also the last Obedience Trial in the 1961 Season. Our Judges - Messrs McKerchar, Holmes and Dyos all expressed their pleasure in judging at such a happy Trial.

We were especially pleased at the number of our young members entering and doing really well. Although none passed, some came close and just sheer bad luck knocked off those most important points. The work of their dogs was of a good standard and with more experience on their side we feel sure that we have some potential trophy winners among them.

Our trophies and sashes were greatly admired by the visitors and a long trophy list for Novice Class created quite a deal of interest - with a section for entrants in their first Trial, and two Club trophies apart from the usual Trial trophies.

During the tea interval our President Mr. Boseley presented the gold Club Award Medal to Mr. Bruenjes' Shepherd "Goldie" and the newly instituted silver Club Award Medal for Training Members to Mrs. Rankin's Labrador "Duffton Regal Roamer" for Geelong Trained Dogs gaining their titles.

As this was the first time our Awards have been presented during a Trial, it aroused a great deal of interest among members of other Clubs.

In this Trial only one dog and four bitches passed in Novice; three passed in Open; and for the first time at our Trials there was no pass in U.D.

Trophy Winners are as follows :-

Novice Dog: Mr. Arms' "Marienbad Carl"

" Bitch: Mrs. Reid's "Armando Brunhilde"

Open : Mr. Paxman's "Reinzucht Challenge"

Bob Martin Empire Trophy - for highest points gained by entrant in First Trial.

Presented by Salmond & Spraggon Pty.Ltd.

Mrs. Rankin's "Armanda Cinder Lass"

Lehrman Perpetual Trophy - for highest points gained by Geelong Trained Novice

German Shepherd. Presented by Fred Lehrman

Mrs. Reid's "Armando Brunhilde".

Sparks Perpetual Trophy - for highest points gained by Geelong Trained Novice

Other Breeds. Presented by Sparks Jewellers.

Mrs. Rankin's "Armanda Cinder Lass".

"Anybody Want to Buy a \$2300 Dog?"

By: Robert de Roos.

His name is Topper. He is a boxer with a fine tawny coat, a black muzzle, sharply chiseled ears and emotional brown eyes. There is not a mean bone in his body or a bad thought in his head. In fact there is no thought of any kind in his head!

He poses stretched out on the steps like the marble lions in front of the library, his stern gaze fixed on the middle distance. He is mighty handsome and he knows it. Man's Noble Friend, the watchdog, guarding the home.

A nice picture, but untrue. My dog is worthless as a watchdog. He lets anyone into the house. Milkmen, burglars, salesmen - they're all the same to him. The only thing he actually watches is me. I came in the other night at 3 a.m. and what happened? Good old Topper hollered until the whole house was awake.

This did not surprise me; Topper has been trying to get me for six years. When we bought him he weighed only ten pounds. He wore a puzzled look. "Oh, Daddy, don't you just love him?" cried the girls. "No," I replied. Everyone thought I was joking.

Today Topper weighs about 85 pounds and comes way up to here. He has consumed 4380 cans of horsemeat \$1314. The girls laugh and call Topper "food's best friend". I do not laugh, but it is an accurate description. In six years I figure he has eaten four and one-third horses. There is no indication that he will ever stop eating, and there is not a horse in the land that can be considered safe. The girls blame me because Topper doesn't like me. "You teased him right from the start," they say.

I had been a little sarcastic, perhaps. "Boxer, huh?" I'd say. "Who'd you ever lick? You like a palooka to me".

The fact is, I came to dogs late in life. But dogs came at me early; I was bitten five times before I was 12. This, I explain to people who adore dogs, is why I don't. It makes no impression. "It's all your fault," they say. "Dogs can smell your fear".

When I grew up I married this girl, and the product of the union, as they say, was two more girls. That made a minority of one. By and by, these girls began talking about getting a dog. So we went shopping. Topper, the dog we bought, had practically no tail and his ears were long. He cost \$50.

At first that is. But everyone agreed I should pay for docking his tail, which set me back another \$10. Right away he was a \$60 dog. Then we had his ears shaped by a special Vet. That was \$25 more. Topper came home with his ears taped in two cones of adhesive which rose from his head like twin dunce caps. He looked pretty funny. But he was now an \$85 dog.

The how-to-train-a-dog books cost \$7.50. The training leash \$4; a steel-link collar \$1.35. Topper liked to play with the rubber beach balls around neighbour's swimming pools. He never meant to bite through them, of course; he always looked hurt when they collapsed. Replacing rubber balls over three seasons: about \$25.

As he grew, he wandered through the back-yard hedge and started making trouble next door. We then fenced in the back yard for \$250.

NO HELP FOR THE DOG MENACE !!

We would never get any help from the press regarding the danger or otherwise of our dogs when interstate dog club demonstrations are given such prominent notice. Published in the Herald on November 29th was a large picture of a Shepherd demonstrating the "art" of attack work, under the picture was this caption -

"With teeth bared in an angry snarl a German Shepherd dog moves in to the attack on a word of command. It was part of a demonstration at the All Breeds' Dog Training Club at Burwood, Sydney."

Our Shepherd owners and in fact some of our Training Members who own large dogs should pay close attention to this -

We wish to point out that attack work must not be taught to any dog - (large or small) until it has reached the highest standard of obedience and control - And Reliability. Only the police and army are entitled to use attack dogs. A dog that has not reached an extremely high standard of obedience control and reliability, if taught to attack is extremely dangerous.

Training a dog to attack is definitely against the policy of our Club and will not be tolerated.

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HIGHER FEES FOR SHEPHERDS

No doubt you have all read in the papers where Registration Fees for 'Alsations' has risen to £5 and £1 for other breeds.

No one knows just where the dog menace will end now - I wonder if the Government can act as fast to control all the unwanted dogs roaming the streets after March 14th next as it did to coin another pound or two from dog lovers.

CAR TRIAL

Apparently there was some confusion as to the information our Club received in connection with the Car Trial to be held on December 10th and announced in the last issue of Shepherd News.

Originally it was thought to be in aid of our Club funds, but this was not so. Instead it was to be in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Assn. and the Geelong Lost Dogs' Home, two very worthy causes indeed and we hope the results of the event helped them greatly.

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We hear one of our newcomers Mrs. McKenna is now recovering from a serious injury she received in a cliff-fall recently.

We certainly hope that she makes a speedy recovery and that she will soon be able to join in the Sunday morning classes again when they resume in the New Year.

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ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Sunday Morning Training Classes
Commence for the New Year

on

JANUARY 14, 1962.

at

10.00 am

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE :

The First Meeting for the New Year
Takes Place On

JANUARY 10, 1962

at

The Palms Coffee Lounge - Ryrie St.

Commencing at

8.00 pm.

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Continuing -

"Anybody Want to Buy a \$2300 Dog?"

I don't know what year it was we decided to get a new rug. The old rug showed every trace of mud Topper brought in, and the rug cleaner had told me, "Topper and this rug are going to see my children through school". The new rug is rather drab but it doesn't show mud. It cost \$400 but we thought that would be cheaper in the long run.

It has only been in the last year or so that Topper has learned how to go through a glass door. He doesn't actually go through the glass; he flings himself against the frame until its catch comes loose. The glass breaks as the door hits the side of the house. But, as his mistress says, "He doesn't do it very often."

In an effort to avoid the shattering of glass we decided to make Topper an outdoor dog. We bought a prefabricated doghouse, brightly painted and weathertight. Topper would have nothing to do with it. Then we installed on our house a special dog door, a thing with a plastic flap which allows the dog to go in and out. It works fine. That is, if everyone hollers, "Go to your door!" whenever he scratches on a forbidden portal. But even Topper knows the dog door leads only to the back yard, so he prefers to lunge against the front door.

Topper has lots of energy and he loves to get up a tremendous head of steam racing around the yard and then come straight at you, veering at the last second. This is disconcerting, and it can be expensive. He made such a dash at his mistress just as she opened a door to go into the house. In the narrow quarters Topper miscalculated and slammed into her. It was not really a break, the doctor said, just a chip off a foot bone.

The lady spent only two days in hospital after the operation to remove the chip. (X-rays, \$30; operation \$100; hospital, \$24. A Total of \$154 against Topper's account).

We would have flung Topper out long ago. But his mistress is head over heels in love with him. And, though he doesn't know it, even I have a sneaking admiration for him.

So maybe we won't sell after all. Anyway, who'd pay the price - the cost of all the rugs, glass, books, rubber balls, horse meat, and so on? We added it all up not long ago and came to a pretty grand total of \$2363.35. Who'd be fool enough to pay that much for a dog?

Us, I guess.

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"Welcome Stranger"

It was a pleasure to see Wendy Heyne at our Training Class again recently after a long absence.

Many will think of her as a newcomer but this is by no means so, for Wendy has been with the Club since its inception and served on our Committee for several years.

The ties of a young family however, have prevented Wendy from taking such an active part in club affairs of late but it is very nice to see her again.

I'm afraid Wendy's husband Karl, is in the "vars" again though - with an injured hand, received when he speared himself on a wool-hook. We've lost count now just how many mishaps Karl has had this year, but lets hope 1962 holds better luck for him.

- SUMMER WARNINGS -

Each summer, with holidays upon us we give our members - particularly our newcomers - the usual "beware signs"

Firstly - FLIES

We don't like them ourselves, and when they bite the dogs ears, they like them even less.

Apart from causing the dogs annoyance, in acute cases the hair is lost from the backs of the ears and at times has difficulty in growing again.

Prevention is the best cure for this complaint so liberal applications of some oily insect repellent such as DIMP will keep the flies away and the dogs happy.

Secondly - BEACHES

Here we have three hazards - No. 1 - the Toad Fish is the greatest. This fish often referred to as the Toadie is a nuisance to fishermen as it nibbles off the bait - so when hooked they are dumped on the pier or bottom of the boat until they blow themselves up like a balloon, the fisherman then tosses it back into the water - so what happens? Well, very often these fishes are washed up dead on the beach, there the danger lies - if your dog decides to have a lick or goes so far as to eat a nice smelly old fish he will die from poisoning - very few dogs have the luck to survive.

So the best thing to do is teach your dog in his regular training not to pick up anything - anywhere. But it will also pay off if you keep a very sharp eye out yourself when you are walking your dog along piers or the beaches - particularly if you see anyone fishing.

We now come to hazard No. 2. This is broken glass - one we are all only too well aware of - and dogs can get their pads badly gashed as a result of this.

If your dog is unlucky enough to get cut, have a Vet treat him as there may be fragments of glass left behind and unskilled hands often make the injury worse. At best if the cut is deep stop the flow of blood as best you can and get immediate treatment.

Thirdly, but by no means least! Don't let your dog run loose on the beach unless in some very secluded area - although we are unafraid of dogs ourselves, we must remember that there many people who are. With the newspapers taking every advantage to press the unpopularity of the breed don't lets be guilty of adding fuel to the fire.

With these points fixed in the mind there should be nothing to prevent you and your dog having a wonderful holiday that you will both enjoy.

- o o o -

There was a very proud young man among the spectators at our Trial-- he came to see his father Gunther Bruenjes be presented with "Goldie's" Award Medal - he was so excited he could hardly wait for the event.

Then to make his day complete he bought the last tickets sold in the raffle for a tinned ham - this he won.

Off he went home after the Trial with the ham tucked securely under one arm and a bunch of onions under the other -

If ever a lad 'knew his onions' - he did!

Extract from "The Complete German Shepherd" on

- SKIN TROUBLES -

RINGWORM : Is a communicable disease of the skin of dogs, readily transmissible to man and to other dogs and animals. The disease is caused by specific fungi, which are somewhat similar to ordinary molds.

The lesions caused by ringworm usually first appear on the face, head or legs of the dog, but they may occur on any part of the surface of his body.

The disease in dogs is characterized by small, circular areas of dirty gray or brownish-yellow crusts or scabs partially devoid of hair, the size of a sixpence.

As the disease progresses, the lesions increase in both size and in number and merge to form larger patches covered with crusts containing broken off hairs. A raw, bleeding surface may appear when crusts are broken or removed by scratching or rubbing to relieve itching. In some cases, however, little or no itching is manifested. Microscopic examination and culture tests are necessary for accurate diagnosis.

If treatment of affected dogs is started early, when only a few lesions are present, the progress of the disease can be immediately arrested.

Treatment consists of clipping the hair from around the infected spots, removing the scabs and painting the spots with tincture of iodine, five times weekly until recovery takes place. In applying these remedies it is well to cover the whole area and extend at least 1/2 inch beyond, since the spots tend to expand outward from their centres.

Scabs, hair and debris removed from the dog during his treatments should be burned to destroy the causative organisms and to prevent reinfection.

We cannot over emphasise the precautions necessary in the handling of dogs affected by ringworm, since the disease is transmissible to man and other animals. by :

Milo G. Denlinger.

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Several years ago there was a mild epidemic of ringworm among our Club dogs, but with prompt treatment and isolation the spread was cut to a minimum - with this experience behind us we advise our new members not to bring their dogs to training should they become affected. Also we would appreciate if they report to Training Supervisor so that fellow-club-members can be advised to be on the alert regarding their dogs.

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We are very sad to learn that Mr. Wally Young has lost his best friend -

"HOUSSAIE ZANISON"

In his 12 years Zanison has sired some very good dogs; among them being three of our Club's original puppies - Wolf - Roland and Rickie.

We wish to express our sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. Young, who we know must miss their Zanison greatly now that he has gone to romp on the happy hunting grounds.

Christmas - it's just for dogs

By: Nancy Dexter.

Was the first person to say "Every dog has his day" thinking of the family pet who hangs a stocking on his kennel on Christmas Eve? Crammed in that bulging bag on Santa's back are gifts to interest the most discerning dog.

Does Fido or Fifi yearn for jewellery, cosmetics, a new outfit, toys or sweets?

Maybe this list doesn't sound very doggy but today's dog goes in for gracious living just like his owners.

Poodles, being French, have always been sophisticated and are apt to regard any old jewelled velvet collar with much the same boredom as their mistress would last year's hat.

Colour conscious poodles like blue collars this year because Paris says blue is THE color.

Worldly dogs too, can have their own bikini sets made to order in any color they prefer. Unless he has his own bikini factory at the North Pole Santa would have to pay £6 for five pieces - lame pants, frilled collar, organza beach coat, monogrammed towel and beach bag.

These are best for white dogs because others are said to blanch at the thought.

Shaggy dogs know instinctively they can't wear frills, so for them smart coats are designed on traditional tailored lines.

London tailors used to make these to order and have them sent by air to Australia, but the demand became so brisk this year that an Australian - trained in Saville Row, of course - now makes them.

Melbourne's smartest dogs often wear two-tone lace-up shoes, not only for appearance, but to prevent them from scratching car seats or leaving paw marks on pale carpets.

Your dog might easily get a bottle of bubble bath in his stocking. Ordinary suburban dogs, like yours and mine, love this taste of high life.

Calorie-conscious animals will appreciate non-sugar dog candy. Gourmets will go for mouth-watering doggy bickies in a selection that reads like the 57 varieties, including charcoal and licorice, meat and vegetables, mixed veg., meat and liver, or cheese.

The dog's digestion and waistline will probably be in better shape than ours after the big eat-up.

Happy Christmas, Fido - and do remember not to bite Santa Claus. His might be the hand that feeds you.

- o o o -

My dog Kerry and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our fellow Club-Members a "Merry Xmas" and a "Very Happy New Year".

Shirley McCormack

For Pets of Every Description -

Budgies

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Our members who have them will
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CLUB BADGE

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nickle on a blue base and is often
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members to wear one.

Price : 12/6

Obtainable from the Secretary.

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TRAINING BOOK

Members, have you bought this
valuable booklet on the successful
training of your dog - you should
have one to help you extend the
teaching you receive at the Training
Ground.

Price : 5/-

Obtainable from the Treasurer.

CLUB BLAZERS

Every club of good standing
has their own blazer - and rightly
so -

Made to measure by a leading
Melbourne blazer specialist who
caters for our football clubs and
Olympic team, it is one you will be
proud to wear - and the Shepherd Head
pocket is certainly an eye catcher.

Application forms with measure-
ment chart are available from the
Secretary.

CLUB TIES

Standard dress for demos. is
grey slacks for men, grey skirts for
girls, white shirts and of course -

Club Ties

These are available on order from
the Secretary -

Price : 11/6

We would like our members to
patronize those firms who advertise
through our magazine, as it is with
their help that we are able to bring
this magazine to you.