



October 2009

Our Adventures – Part 5



### Jim's 5000 Vari-Kennel

The fifth installment in the continuing saga of a Gordon Setter and his man. There is a wee bit of crispness to the air this morning Joyce, I do believe that autumn is approaching quickly. Och, I see our friends are coming up the path, would you put the kettle on dearie as we are going to have guests. Good morning to you all, it's grand to see ye all again. Come in, come in and make yourselves comfortable. Joyce has the kettle on and I believe she may have a treat or two to serve with the tea. You wee bairns, off ye go, take Brodie with ye outside and play some catch with him. Aye, that should keep them all out of trouble for a wee while. So what brings you about? Ah, ye herd of our massive construction project. Aye we have been a bit busy lately. We have the new kennel being constructed for Brodie and his guests. That is about 80% complete now and will soon be occupied by the lad during the day while Joyce and I are at work. Of course when we are back home he will be back in the hoose with us. He is one of the family din ye kin. So back tay the beginnings of the Kennel. As I recall, it really began as a landscape improvement project. Joyce and I thought we would eliminate some of the steep grade behind our hoose and gain a wee bit more back yard.

Continued on page 6





BIS, BISS CH SASSENACH  
 KING OF THE CASTLE CGN RN

*“Edward”*

(BISS CH SANDPIPER'S CASTLES BY THE SEA  
 X CH SASSENACH RINGWRAITH SURESHOT)

EDWARD'S FIRST OUTING OF THE YEAR  
 PROVED TO BE A VERY EXCITING ONE!  
 HEARTFELT THANKS TO MR. GEOFF KILL FOR  
 THIS NATIONAL SPECIALTY HONOR!

ALWAYS BREEDER/OWNER/HANDLED: JUDITH BROWN  
 SASSENACH GORDON SETTERS, SOUND MINDS - SOUND BODIES  
 CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA  
 WWW.GORDONSETTERS.COM  
 CO-BREEDER: BEV HOLOBOFF

2009  
 MEMBERSHIP EXHIBITION  
 NATIONAL FLOOR  
 Best in Specialty  
*Best in Specialty*

Joyce and I were never happy about leaving Brodie in a crate during the day while we were at work, so by natural evolution the idea developed of a kennel for the lad to use during the day. I was able to purchase a 12 foot by 18 foot chain link kennel from a friend at a bargain price and my daughter contributed another 12 foot by 12 foot chain link kennel she no longer had use for. So we had plenty of sections of chain link kennel to work with and two sections with doors.

So now I started with the design. I tried to think of all the possible future considerations that might happen so that the kennel would be adaptable. I decided to place the chain link fence sections upon 6 by 6 inch pressure treated timbers. This would create a space to fill with 3/8-inch pea stone. The stone is small enough not to obstruct a bowel should one of the visiting dogs have that nasty habit of rock eating. This would allow for natural drainage of the area and would not be difficult to clean. I designed the base of the kennel run area to be vinyl coated chain link fencing to prevent any dig outs should any escape artists decide to dig doon through 6 inches of pea stone.

Now came the more difficult design decision of the kennel hoose. I laid out the floor plan to accommodate two, separate, interior kennel spaces for dogs. I was aware of the damage that dogs can do when they are bored, so I decided the walls had to be able to stand up to some punishment.

The walls were insulated and then a layer of moisture resistant green board was applied to the walls and ceiling. I decided on moisture resistant green board because I had plans of installing an elevated bath for the dogs and thought it best to add a little extra protection.

Lighting was also going to be a critical issue, as any of you know who have tried to groom a Gordon in poor light. Since I allowed space for a grooming table in the design, I placed two halogen swivel spots to either side of the allocated grooming table space. I also located a double halogen swivel spots to beam over my shoulder and into the proposed tub area so I would may be working in my light there either. For general lighting, I located three recessed can lights with compact florescent bulbs and outside of the hoose I located a motion sensitive, compact florescent flood light at the roof peak. All of the lighting is independently switched to allow selection of the lighting needed at the time.

I designed the electric power to include three duplex outlets daisy chained back to a GFI, (ground fault interrupt), duplex outlet. This would give all the outlets GFI protection should I be in contact with water and power at the same time. This can be quite shocking if you don't mind the pun. All of the lighting and power is fed through a local 20-amp circuit breaker located on the entrance wall. I selected FRP, (fiberglass reinforced plastic), paneling to go on top of the green board for the walls. I felt that this had a high durability and was easily cleaned. It is similar to the material you would see on the interior of a walk-cooler. The ceiling will simply be sanded and painted.

I am planning on pouring a concrete floor in the kennel hoose. It is impervious to any water from water buckets or the bathtub that might find it's way onto the floor.

So with design in hand, we started investigating cost to construct. After talking with several contractors regarding building it in place we discovered that we could purchase a sturdily constructed, pre-fabricated "shed" with vinyl siding that closely matched our hoose, nice windows and a sturdy door that met all of our needs at less cost then having a contractor build one.

So we purchased the "shed". I had my excavating contractor level a piece of the property for the kennel and he did a great job. It was as smooth and level as a billiards table.

I had to acquire a building permit and went through the laborious task of providing a plot plan with my hoose shown, septic tank location, boundary lines and the kennel hoose location in relation to all of this. We paid our fee and "walked" the permit through all of the concerned town agencies, all of the while thinking, "this is just a shed".

The day finally arrived for the "shed" to be built. A large truck arrived at about 7:30 AM with all of the pre-fabricated sections on it and two workmen to put it all together.

"Where is this going" the young man inquired. I indicated to him the location the Joyce and I had decided upon and off they went. These men were very experienced and moved quite quickly. By 12:30 PM they were done and the new kennel hoose looked beautiful. They packed up their tools and were off just that quickly.

The next afternoon, I entered our kitchen to find my beautiful, loving bride staring intently out the sliding back door at the new kennel hoose. My heart sank. After thirty-six wonderful years of marriage, I knew that look only too well. "What are ye staring at", I cautiously inquired. "I don't care for where the house is located" my wonderful wife replied. "But this is the location we agreed upon" I replied, thinking that five other locations were considered before this decision was made. "I know, but now that I see it, I don't care for it. Could we move the building about twelve feet in this direction and put the chain link fencing to the opposite side so it is less likely to be seen from the street?"

I said to myself "use caution here lad". "If we do that, the side of the building that I had no windows on for the kennel fencing will be on the wrong side"

"Turn the building 180 degrees and then it will have the right side to the kennel fence" my love replied so sweetly.

"But that will put the door on the wrong side" I desperately replied. "So" she expertly countered.

"Alright, I know how to fix this" I stated with all of the strength I could muster to contain myself. "We will hire the shed moving man to move the shed the required distance and add two window to the side that currently has no windows. This will correct the situation and leave the door facing the hoose the way I want.

This was acceptable to my dear wife and we took the necessary action to make it all happen, all the while I had to keep reminding myself that the money for this extra if place into my coffin would nay keep me warm, although it may have provided some measure of comfort.

Here, let me get our photo album and show you the progress of the construction. Aye, the photos speak volumes. Ye can see where we cut in the new dog doors. Those are of superior construction, extra heavy and should far outlast yours truly. Then there is the photos of the insulation being installed, and then the green board and some outside photos of the fencing installation.

Aye, it is all coming together quite nicely, even if it has been a bit of a money pit. But you only do something like this once and I believe you would later regret decisions that were made to save a penny. However, I do believe my dear bride is about ready to move me oot in tay the new kennel with Brodie.

While your looking over the photos, I'll check and see if the tea is ready.

"Joyce dearie, is the tea ready?" "Och, hear ye are now, let me help ye with that tray. Oh my, soda scones with blackcurrant jam. Ye have out down yourself lass, this is a marvelous treat with the tea. Let me call in the wee bairns to join us." "Here they come now, did ye have a good time playing catch with Brodie? Aye, now sit ye doon and have yourselves a wee scone."

"Time to leave already? It's been really grand having you for a visit. Come ye back soon; ye never know when I'll have anither tall tale of my boy Brodie.

## Ramblin' the Coverts

Jim Dillon

In past articles we talked a little about getting started with your dog, now it's time to talk about what you need. The most expensive investment you will make, after your dog, is a shotgun. And you should treat it as an investment, first because it will retain much of its value and second you are investing your life and those of your friends in choosing a safe, reliable firearm. The classic upland shotgun is a double, be it a side by side or an over and under, by design they are the safest for the beginner to handle with the exception of the single shot. A double is a break open design; it can be carried open with cartridges in place and only closed when approaching the dog on point. Your hunting companions always know then your gun is safe and you have little chance of a misfire. A good firearm is not cheap, but then again you didn't get a cheap dog, so why expect to hunt with a cheap gun? A good double can be found for as little as \$500 or well over \$50,000. Yup it's like a Yugo or a Ferrari, both will get you down the road, but one will do it with a little bit more style and reliability.

I learned to hunt over dogs more that fifty years ago with my Uncle Jimmy McCafferty in Ayrshire, Scotland. He kept a pair of Gordons and hunted with an old Holland hammer gun that had seen more than fifty years on the moors before I came along. A good gun will bring you a lifetime of service and maybe your offspring too, if well cared for. If your budget is somewhat limited, look for a good used gun. Many times you can find a gun like a lower grade Fox, Parker, Ithaca or Winchester at a smaller local gun shop. If you don't know much about firearms, take along a friend that does or ask if the dealer will allow an inspection by a gunsmith. If the dealer isn't willing to allow an inspection, you don't want to do business at that shop. If you are more comfortable with new, you're not going to find much under \$1000. There are a few imports from places like Turkey and Italy that are on the low end of the scale; some even with well known American names, do some reading before you spend! Magazines like *Shooting Sportsman and Double Gun Journal* are great sources of information.

So, taking money out of the equation, what are we looking for? For most, the over and under is the easiest to shoot, it has a single sight plane without the distraction of the barrels to each side of the front bead. Hunting over dogs in the eastern part of the country a sixteen gauge or a twenty will do just fine. For those that might travel west to the plains and hunt wild pheasant in places like Dakota, a twelve gauge is going to be the choice. If you are recoil sensitive, you might try a twenty-eight gauge, but I would try the twenty gauge first. Stay away from the tiny .410, although it will knock down a pheasant, it is best left to the expert shooter. As for shotgun shells, again the pellets get smaller the higher the number, just like the twelve gauge is bigger than the twenty gauge. Most hunters use number five or six shot for pheasants, number eights for woodcock or quail and seven and a half for grouse. We could get into all kinds of technical information, but to make it somewhat easy, a twelve gauge is shooting 1 ½ ounce of number six shot at that pheasant and the twenty gauge is shooting 1 ounce of the same number six shot. So the bigger load of the twelve gives you a better chance at hitting the bird with the tradeoff of more recoil. Ladies, my wife's little twenty-eight gauge Beretta does just fine while hunting over dogs and a plus is that it only weights 6 lbs. If this is all new to you, spend some time at a local gun club and inquire into a lesson or two from the clubs pro. Yes many gun clubs are like country clubs, they have staff that can help.

Whatever you buy, treat it well, clean and oil it after every trip to the shooting grounds. You wouldn't put your dog up wet and dirty; treat you gun the same way. That grand old Holland & Holland that my uncle taught me to hunt with, today would sell for more than \$3500. Not a bad investment of 18 quid (\$54) more than 75 years ago.

For those of you that only want to do hunting tests, all of this is not a waste of time, buy a good blank gun and treat it like a \$1000 shotgun. The best and most reliable blank gun is made by *New England Arms*, probably because they make the real thing too.

Next time I'll get into some of the other gear you will probably want to get.



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2008 – 2009

Sept. 23, 2009

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In June, the Robert Potter Animal League in Middletown, RI had its annual Heart and Sole Walk for the Animals at Glen Farm in Portsmouth, RI. Jani, Ronan, and Lillie and a friend participated, walking the 1 1/2 mile course with the sponsorship of several friends.

### Agility Update

The summer TarTan agility trials were held on Aug 8 and 9, 09 at American K9 Country in Amherst NH. Our trial filled once again so we had 330 runs each day. We had wonderful courses from our local judge Ken Fairchild. Many exhibitors had great success on the fun flowing and fast courses. We had two MACHs (Master Agility Champions) earned over the weekend. Anne Timson and her Papillon Spike earned their MACH on Saturday and on Sunday Elaine Hamill and her young Dalmation Linus earned their MACH2.

There were four Gordons entered. We had the mother/daughter duo of Ella (CH Kingpoint Woodsmoke Echo JH NJP ) and Stella (CH Woodsmoke Stella By Starlight JH OA OAJ) Ella is handled by owner Cindy Fitzgerald and Stella is handled by owner Liz Wilshere. Also keeping it in the family were the mother/son duo of Molly (MACH Pinebirch Southern Promise CD RE JH PAX MXP4 MJP8 OFP) and Jake (MACH Pinebirch Just Jake CD RA JH XF) handled by owner Maureen McLatchy.

I would like to thank the following members who worked so hard to make these trials such a success. Shirley Laflamme and Joanne Williamson who are there for setup on Friday and work from start to finish both days of the trial ringmastering and chief course building. Without these ladies I wouldn't be able to pull this off time and again. Also, thanks to Cindy Fitzgerald and Liz Wilshere who worked all day Sat and Sun. Special thanks to Liz who gets us our tremendous assortment of treats, bags, biscuits from the Wellness company as donations to our worker raffle. The workers really appreciate such quality prize items. Thanks to Nancy Large and Richard Dwyer who came to work for the second half of each day and stayed till the bitter end of cleanup on Sunday. Thanks to Larry Clifford for coming to help on Sunday.

#### August 8 Gordon Setter Qualifiers:

20" Preferred Novice Standard	Ella	1 <sup>st</sup> place
24" Excellent Jumpers w/weaves	Stella	1 <sup>st</sup> place
24" Excellent B Standard	Jake	1 <sup>st</sup> place
24" Excellent B Jumpers w/ weaves	Jake	1 <sup>st</sup> place
20" Preferred Excellent B jumpers w/weaves	Molly	1 <sup>st</sup> place

#### August 9 Gordon Setter Qualifiers

24" Excellent B FAST	Jake	1 <sup>st</sup> place
24" Excellent B Standard	Jake	1 <sup>st</sup> place
24" Excellent B Jumpers w/weaves	Jake	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
20" Preferred Excellent B jumpers w/ weaves	Molly	1 <sup>st</sup> place

**Maureen McLatchy**  
Agility Trial Chair

### TarTan Tidings Newsletter

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the month**

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or In Memoriam

***Irish Setter Club of Central Connecticut***  
**Field Training Day For All Setters**  
**Sunday, October 18, 2009**  
**Mansfield Field Trial Area, North Windham CT**

**A full day of training, both individual work and classes!**

Experienced instructors will show you how to teach the whoa and the recall, work on pointing style, and give tips on how best to work a field. Morning and afternoon individual field work with quail will be available.

**Puppies and novice dogs welcome! Get introductory bird contact and learn how to develop that basic instinct. We'll discuss Hunt Test procedures and give you information on upcoming tests. There will be handouts for "continuing education".**

Higher level training will also be available. Learn how to train the retrieve, honoring, and the "steady to wing and shot". Individual discussion will be available for specific problems. Activities will start at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be available for a nominal fee and demonstrations by "high level" dogs will be given during lunch time. The price for the full day of training plus 2 birds per dog is \$35.00 (additional bird contact with several group activities throughout day). Additional dogs will be \$20 per dog. Reservations are required and participation is limited to 30 dogs. For more information and to make a reservation, go to [www.isccc.org](http://www.isccc.org), click on Events Calendar, and then "Info" at the Field Day listing. You may also email [lynn@connallirish.com](mailto:lynn@connallirish.com) or call (802) 254-4236.

**NEW TITLES – June 2009**

**CONFORMATION:**

**Ch Mountainview's Sas Sea (B) June 9, 2009**

(Ch Sandpiper's Castles By The Sea x Ch Mountainview's Greta Garbo)

Breeder/Owner: Shareen Brown

**July 2009**

**Ch Ahoy's Pride Of The Glens (D) July 2, 2009**

(Ch Sandpiper's Shore Enough x Ch Anoy's Iona Of Skye)

Breeder: Allison Smith Treadwell; Owner: James MacWalter & Joyce MacWalter

**Ch Sandpiper's Wash-A-Shore (B) July 2, 2009**

(Ch Brigadoon's Repeat Offender CD x Ch Sandpiper's Ship-To-Shore)

Breeder: NM & NM & NM; Owner: NM & Paul Reilly

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Submitted by Karol Paduch  
[trilogygordons@aol.com](mailto:trilogygordons@aol.com)

**Scottish Games**

Robin Marshall and Pixie, Angus, Ellen Shanahan, and Jeff Martin represented TarTan Gordon Setter Club Rescue at the Capital District Scottish Games in Altamont, NY. This is the fourth year we have participated, and, as usual, the setter kids were very popular! Pixie (Tamarack Tinkerbell Stardust) and Angus (CH Tamarack Sharp Dressed Man JH) were referred to as canine ambassadors for their breed in the Parade of Scottish Breeds, hosted by Steve Caporizzo of Channel 10 Albany, and they also gladly submitted to much patting and smooching from people who stopped at the TarTan Rescue table. Several people had had Gordons, so there were plenty of stories and a few tears as they remembered what great dogs Gordons are. While Robin, Jeff and I had a great time, I think the dogs had the best time, especially when we walked through the Clans and Societies tables---the MacDougall clan ALWAYS has a plentiful supply of shortbread ready for our black and tans! The canine portion of the Scottish Games is always Saturday of Labor Day weekend, so mark your calendars now to attend next year.....we are being outdone by Scottish terriers, Golden Retrievers, and Scottish Deerhounds in numbers but certainly NOT in enthusiasm!

**SALIVATING CINNAMON APPLE NIPS**

1 cup all purpose flour

1 cup quick rolled oats

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ cup canola oil

1/3 cup honey

2 eggs

1 cup cored and diced apple

Preheat ove to 350 F. Grease 2 baking sheets with nonstick vegetable spray.

Stir together the flour, oats, baking powder, and cinnamon in a bowl and set aside. In a large bowl stir together the oil and honey until well blended. Add the eggs, one at a time, stirring to combine. Add the dry ingredients to the egg mixture and stir to form a smooth dough. Fold in the apples.

Drop the dough by the rounded teaspoonful, 1 ½ inches apart on the baking sheets. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes or until light golden.

Cool to room temperature before serving.

Store in an airtight container for up to 1 week, or wrap well and freeze up to 2 months. (Thaw before serving)

Glen 'Mor is proud  
to announce the Championship of  
CH Ahoy's Pride of the Glens JH  
(CH Sandpiper's Shore Enough x CH Ahoy's Iona of Skye)



OFA Hips - GSE-4581G31M-NOPI - Good  
OFA Elbows - GSE-EL452M31-NOPI - Good  
OFA Thyroid - GSE-TH76/31M-NOPI - Normal  
OFA Cert - GSE-891 - Good

Owners:  
Jim & Joyce MacWalter  
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Glen 'Mor wishes to thank  
Alex Wheeler and Adam Bernardin  
for their expert handling  
as well as  
Allison Treadwell (Ahoy Kennel)  
&  
Janice Beattie (Sandpiper Kennel)  
for producing such a wonderful dog!

### TarTan Archives

To complete our records of Gordon Setters, we are in need of the following:

GSCA Newsletters from #1 through #27. Please advise what you are willing to donate so I can complete our records.

Also need several copies of the Catalog for the 1998 GSCA National Specialty, hosted by TarTan in Warwick, RI, as I can not find that any copies were kept for our records.

Thanks for all the CD's that I have been receiving – and thanks for dating them as well. Event names and dates are very important for all info sent to the Archives.

Karen Gatchell  
cgatchel@maine.rr.com



**Move over Mom!!!**

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