



# TARTAN

GORDON SETTER CLUB, INC

*Tidings*

'10, Volume 3, Issue 5

May 2010

## The Beginning and Ongoing Story of the Gordon Setter

### Blackhurst Mason Dixon of Doubledee "Dixon"

#### Whelped September 3, 2007 – "An Important Life"

by Gwynne G. McDevitt, Doubledee Kennels

Dixon is a loved, loving, handsome dog bred to be both a show dog and competitive field dog, who, as of several months ago, could have been both. A good looking fellow with good coat, he has a beautiful head and a bright and very energetic attitude.

I had entered some dogs in the GSCA Nationals and Field Trial Championship in Sutherlin, Virginia in November of 2007. At the time I was saddened by the traumatic loss of my beloved English Setter, Doubledee Diana. In an outside pen in front of the clubhouse I saw a litter of Gordon setter pups. My heart went out to the smallest pup of the large litter. He made us all smile with his antics and attitude of "I'm not getting pushed around because I'm the littlest of my siblings."

During the next several days I was drawn to that outside pen. I picked him up from the pen, walked around with him, hugged that little lively pup with long ears and big "Take me" brown eyes. Next thing I knew he was with my dog string, then off on his way to Pennsylvania and Doubledee Kennels.

I started running him in some Puppy Stakes at field trials, but decided to send him to trainer Jesse Chapman in Ohio for some needed work. Jesse placed him in several trials for the beginning of his field trial career. I brought him home to work with him and entered him in a trial. He came home with a 4<sup>th</sup> ribbon in a good size Puppy Stake. With the season ended, I decided to search for a good show handler, located in Bear, Delaware, who had been suggested by a friend. On the drive to Bear in June of 2009, I had high hopes that my 21-month old dog would soon begin his new career.

Upon arrival, he happily jumped out of his crate, gazed up at the handler and was the perfect dog, gaiting with a happy tail. She liked him, but said to me, "He's a bit on the thin side for show. Bring him back heavier by another five pounds in July and we can "wet his feet" in some



local dog shows." I drove home, happy and pleased, visualizing Dixon in that upcoming show ring.

Early in July, Dixon and I headed down to Rehoboth Beach, DE where I have a beach house with an outside yard and lots of paths to walk. Although seemingly very happy to be with me, he would only eat if I hand fed him and sometimes even that did not work. He was getting thinner...not exactly what I had planned.

Returning to Pennsylvania, Dixon and I went to have some tests taken by Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, my very trusted veterinarian. The report was not good; he was losing protein from his kidneys. Other reports led to the diagnosis of some sort of kidney failure, possibly juvenile kidney disease. Dixon was now 22 months old. My heart stopped!

Dixon and I held our heads high to go on to many tests taken by Dr. "J" as I call him and many suggested by Dr. Jerold Bell, who is doing an extensive study on

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Come one, come all to the

# TarTan Picnic!

Sunday, June 27, 2010

Flaherty Field Trial Area, Tromley Road, East Windsor, CT

Activities will include Rally Training  
Gordon Games (details at the Picnic!)

General Membership meeting

Annual Election of Officers

and, of course, **FOOD!**

As usual, Tar Tan will supply hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages.

We look forward to the wonderful Pot Luck contributions of members and guests.

Activities begin at 9:00 AM

*Special Event!*

Jim Basham, long-time bird dog trainer and Gordon Setter friend, will be conducting a seminar for beginners as well as experienced handlers. He will begin with a talk, and then provide one-on-one introduction to birds and training for interested individuals and their dogs. He will begin with novices. In order to make the most of the cooler morning temperatures, this activity will begin

*PROMPTLY at 8:00 AM. There will be a charge for birds.*

*Please contact Robin Marshall <rpix05@aol.com> Tel: 413-655-8943*

*to reserve your space and let her know what you'll be bringing!*

*Don't miss this once-a-year chance to relax and have fun with your Gordon pals!!!*





(Dixon from page 1)

diagnosis, all of these tests, ruling out tickborne and other diseases, came back negative. Dixon then started his medications and special kidney disease diet. I then made an appointment with a well known vet, Dr. Meryl Littman, of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

From a physical observation, Dixon's growth was not stunted, reaching 25 inches at the shoulder and weighing 51 pounds. With the special diet for dogs with kidney problems, he is now up to 55 pounds with energy to spare! However, he continues to test that he is still losing protein from his kidneys, although it has somewhat abated with medication.

From Dr. Littman:

Dixon had a most thorough diagnostic work-up in order to stage his renal disease, find a cause, and hopefully treat him specifically as well as symptomatically. Tests included blood tests (CBC, biochemical profile), urine tests (urinalysis, urine protein/creatinine ratio, urine culture), imaging (chest radiographs, abdominal ultrasound), blood pressure measurements, and the most complete set of infectious disease testing I've seen done in a long while (because he was well-travelled) including (in alphabetical order) tests for Anaplasmosis, Aspergillosis, Babesiosis, Bartonellosis, Blastomycosis, Borreliosis (Lyme disease), Brucellosis, Coccidioidomycosis, Dirofilaria immitis (Heartworm), Ehrlichiosis, Histoplasmosis, Leptospirosis, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Everything was normal except for his elevated serum creatinine, BUN, and urine protein/creatinine ratio, and the fact that his kidneys appeared slightly small and irregular on the ultrasonogram. There was no history of toxin exposure, no evidence of cancer, and so we highly suspected juvenile renal disease. A renal biopsy was recommended to be absolutely sure that his kidney changes were consistent with that and to rule out the possibility of amyloidosis or immune-mediated glomerulonephritis. We talked with Dr. Jerold Bell who had experience with other Gordon Setters with familial nephropathy, and we read the published pathology findings concerning 16 Gordons with this entity (16 may be the tip of the iceberg). We discussed the pros and cons of getting a renal biopsy at all, and whether a wedge biopsy would have to be done or if we could get enough information from smaller core biopsies taken with a Tru-cut needle with ultrasound guidance. We decided on the latter as the best approach for Dixon and to answer the questions we had.

The renal biopsy was taken and prepared at University of Pennsylvania in 3 very special ways for interpretation by Dr. George Lees' group at the Texas Veterinary Renal Pathology Service (TVRPS) at Texas A&M University. Ordinarily only light microscopy is done by

most pathologists, but Gwynne wanted to know all we could know, in order to help not only Dixon but the whole Gordon Setter community, so samples were sent to Dr. Lees by overnight express, on ice, in Michel's fixative (for immunofluorescence), in glutaraldehyde (for electron microscopy), and in formalin (for light microscopy, which would be done rigorously with thinner cuts of tissue than are usually done). The description of the interpretation covered 10 pages but was summed up by Dr. Brian Berridge of TVRPS: "The changes present in these samples are similar to those we have described in other young Gordon Setters. The process appears to be one of primary tubulointerstitial injury of unknown etiology with secondary and progressive glomerular injury. A reflux nephropathy has been speculated in the past."

When I first heard that Dixon was the smallest pup of his litter, I questioned whether the kidney problem might be due to inadequate nutrition in the first week of life. Or perhaps the problem was congenital but not genetic. Dr. Bell assured me that the kidney changes seen were consistent with those seen in the other affected dogs, most of which were not runts of their litters.

Dixon did very well through the biopsy procedure and was sent home with medication to try to decrease the urinary protein loss and with a modified diet for dogs with early renal failure. He has had blood and urine tests done periodically and so far he is stable and feeling good. But we know that he has less renal reserve than normal, and we are getting prepared for the fact that this disease is known to be progressive and that Dixon will not have a full life span. There are other medications, diet changes, and options that we will consider as necessary in the future to help Dixon have a good quality of life for as long as possible.

From Dr. Bell:

Juvenile renal disease has been documented in the Gordon Setter breed since at least the 1960s. A pathological study of Gordon Setters with juvenile renal disease has been reviewed by several veterinary pathologists, as well as human kidney pathology specialists. They confirm that there is a genetically determined kidney disease shared by these Gordon Setters. An abstract of the study was published in the journal *Veterinary Pathology* in September, 2007. This study suggested a major autosomal recessive gene controlling the disease; meaning that both parents must pass on a defective gene to produce an affected Gordon Setter. However, the study indicated there were other environmental and/or genetic influences involved; i.e., a complex mode of inheritance.

Another study involving many breeds with juvenile renal disease, including Gordon Setters, suggests a major autosomal dominant gene controlling the disease,

(Cont on page 4)

(Dixon from page 3)

which would only need to come from one parent. This study suggests incomplete penetrance, meaning that one copy of a defective gene needs to be inherited to be affected; but many dogs with the defective gene will not develop kidney disease. All dogs with the defective gene will pass it to half of their offspring. This study also indicated other environmental and/or genetic influences involved; i.e., a complex mode of inheritance.

At this time, the exact mode of inheritance of this genetic disease affecting Gordon Setters cannot be determined, so we do not know if a defective gene has to come from both parents, or just one parent. This is not a rare disease in the breed. It is widespread, with a broad pedigree background. It is not limited to a few families. There are over 50 affected Gordon Setters being studied from over 35 litters. It is not a recently appearing disease, with documented cases going back 50 years ago. It can appear in single individuals in a litter, or can affect several littermates. Based on clinical histories, these dogs may die young, or live from three to seven years of age before dying of end-stage kidney failure.

Extended studies into this disease in dogs have shown that some littermates of confirmed affected dogs can develop kidney failure in middle-age. The pathological findings in these middle-aged dogs are the same as found in juvenile renal disease – indicating a longstanding congenital, inherited disease process. This variation in expression of the disease process further complicates dealing with this inherited disease.

In order to deal effectively with this inherited kidney disease, breeders need to know if their breeding dogs are at increased risk of passing on the disease. This can only be determined if they are close relatives to dogs who have been confirmed to be affected. None of us want to produce Gordon Setters affected with genetic disorders, or breed carriers of defective genes. With a large population of breeding dogs and committed owners, breed-wide genetic disorders are everyone's problem. We understand that breeding practices do not cause defective genes, but a lack of positive communication between breeders is detrimental to the overall health of the breed. For the sake of the breed, we must work together to remove the stigma of genetic disease. Only then can we ensure a healthier Gordon Setter that can be a loving companion, a hunting dog, and a competitor.

#### **FACTS:**

There is an inherited kidney disease in Gordon Setters. It usually first presents as increased drinking and urination in young dogs.

Urinalysis usually finds that these dogs cannot concentrate their urine.

Affected dogs may have secondary urinary tract infections.

Pathological findings (from biopsy or necropsy) are defi-

nitive for inherited kidney disease.

The exact mode of inheritance has not been defined.

#### **Comments from Dixon's breeders:**

As breeders of Dixon, we are shocked and saddened to discover that we have produced a JRD dog. Gwynne is brave to go into this with her eyes open. It is clear that Dixon is greatly loved. We are extremely fortunate that Dixon is owned by such a loving and responsible person.

Carol A. Black DVM, Blackhurst

There are so many things that I want to say about this situation. My dear friends and co-breeders Susan DeSilver, Carol Black, along with Carolyn Gold and Gwynne McDevitt are truly committed to the health of our Gordon Setters. Dixon is as Gwynne described him... he's a special young dog and has been since the very beginning.

Learning of Dixon's diagnosis was a shock to us all. All involved feel strongly that we have to turn this event into an opportunity for the improvement of the health of Gordon Setters the world over. When these things occur every individual's involved interests have to be considered, and this event is no different. It was Gwynne's insistence that Dixon's illness be a beginning and use it to obtain as many answers and as much information as possible.

As many of you know, this isn't the first complicated genetic problem that Gordons the world over have faced. We hope that this article will begin a dialogue between our veterinary and research partners as to how to best proceed at this point in fighting JRD in all dogs.

I want to thank Gwynne for having the strength of her convictions and for her honoring Dixon and making his life meaningful for the future of this breed. I am certainly joining her in this endeavor.

Helen Howard, Overlook

I want to thank Gwynne for her extraordinary efforts to diagnose Dixon's disease, for her bravery in the face of a progressive and ultimately fatal disease, and for her willingness to share his story in the hope that others may benefit.

I strongly believe we will only get the tools to defeat genetic disease if we all work together. Dixon's story may inspire others to seek appropriate help with other affected Gordons; to provide biopsies to the research community and DNA on affected dogs and their families to the CHIC DNA repository. If we all work together, we may someday have enough data to find some answers. Dixon's co-breeders, Carol, Helen and I share the same commitment to the future of our breed and the hope that from this sad story some good may come.

(Dixon from page 4)

We are all grateful for the support and guidance we received from Dr. Jerold Bell and are extremely fortunate to have him among our Gordons as a fancier and as a generous expert resource.

Susan DeSilver, Gordon Hill

From Gwynne:

I am writing this article to help owners of beautiful beloved dogs to possibly recognize these symptoms and be able to treat their dogs appropriately – the sooner, the better. I still train Dixon and continue to hope to trial him. He may be able to continue his life with his big heart and zest for life, despite his disease.

## ~ MEMBERSHIP NEWS ~

### Correcting Email Correction for Ralph Schmid:

ralph.schmid@us.qbe.com

**REMINDER: Dues are payable by July 1. Please see page 14 for renewal form.**

### A Newbie Goes to the Setter Symposium

By Ginette Desrosiers

This year, I and my sidekick, Gunner, attended our first All-Setter Symposium, which took place on April 17. I had wanted to attend last year, but a conflict prevented it. This time, I would be able to participate and I was very excited at the prospect. Being new to setters, and sporting breeds in general, I felt that there would be much to be learned and this was an excellent opportunity. My only regret was that my daughter Tami would be unable to accompany us because she was away at college. (She is our resident conformation handler and co-groomer, if I might coin a word, and Gunner's AKC owner-of-record.)

I watched the weather forecasts all week preceding the event, not without worry; it wasn't looking promising for the entire weekend (the rain date was April 18). As the day approached, it became clear that the symposium would go on as scheduled in hopes that the rain would hold off. Friday afternoon, Gunner got his bath and in the evening, I packed everything I could possibly need, as well as my contribution to the potluck lunch. (Not to mention, my Google directions to the venue! Why I just didn't grab the GPS out of the other car, I will never know.)

The drive to Camp Newhoca from my house consisted entirely of back roads (meaning the time to get there was longer than the distance would indicate). After only one wrong turn, I arrived in plenty of time to check in and get my "bird tickets". The weather was rather cool, damp and threatening, but fortunately there was no wind and the rain miraculously held off for the whole day. After exercising Gunner, I put him back in the truck to keep him dry (wet grass), then I spent some time becoming familiar with the layout and hunting for people I knew (not many). There were two outdoor rings set up, one for conformation handling and one for rally/obedience. Next to them was an area designated for the CGC testing. A small building was being used for grooming instruction and a nearby pavilion was set up with picnic tables for the lunch. A larger building contained the restrooms (I swear they were not heated!).

Our first activity was to be beginner grooming. I brought Gunner to the small building in which half a dozen grooming tables were set up. We selected one nearest the door (for natural light; it was dimly lit inside). I set down my tool box and had Gunner jump up on the table so I could brush him out. I learned that our instructor was to be Shareen Brown. She had not arrived yet, so I watched the Irish being groomed on the next table. Other dogs and owners came in and the room was a bit cramped but we were thankful for the shelter and relative warmth. When Shareen arrived, I showed her the grooming tools I had and we began our lesson. I was extremely grateful for this opportunity, as I had never owned a coated breed before. I learned a lot, but need to practice! After over an hour on the table, Gunner was getting VERY antsy, and it was lunch time, so off we went for a walkabout before he went to "rest" in the truck. Lunch was a potluck buffet and it was fabulous! Abundant food for all and great company!

After lunch, it was off to the beginner handling class (if there was something below beginner, I'd have been there). I checked back periodically so I would not miss the start. Suddenly there were pups and handlers in the ring, so off I rushed to join them. After a few awkward minutes, I was politely told that the puppies would be done soon, and Gunner and I could come back in with the big dogs (oops). Kathy Cunningham, who was teaching this class, gave me some valuable pointers and boosted my confidence enough that I felt there may be hope for me after all.

Our final activity was some bird work. We went down by the lake where Gail Ryan and Laura Bedford were directing. Gunner was extremely interested in the waterfowl flying low over the water. Had he not been on a leash, he would surely have gone for a swim. Soon it was our turn, our quail having been planted along the trail in the woods. He found his first bird, but I had to hold fast as he has not been trained to hold a point as of yet. The second bird proved more difficult and he needed some help. So did the bird, requiring a kick in the butt to get it to fly. I'm glad Gail knew where the birds were; I certainly couldn't spot them in the leaves until she virtually put a finger on them. It wouldn't do to allow Gunner to catch one himself.

By this time, the volunteers were packing up. We said our good byes and thank yous, loaded up our things, and headed home after a fun and productive day. I would certainly like to attend again in the future!

**(See photos on page 15)**



**TarTan Gordon Setter Club, Inc.-Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Saturday, March 20, 2010- Fitchburg, MA**

President Larry Clifford called the meeting to order at 12:25 pm

**Attendance:**

In Attendance: Cindy Fitzgerald, Laura Bedford, Larry Clifford, Robin Marshall, Ellen Shanahan, Ralph Schmid, Nancy Smith

Absent: Richard Dwyer has resigned

Guests: Jani Wolstenholme was asked to sit in on the meeting as she is the nominee to fill the vacant board position . Carol Chevalier and Val Schmid were also present during a portion of the meeting.

**Quorum Certification:**

The Secretary certified a quorum was present.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

Ellen Shanahan made a motion to accept the Minutes of the last meeting as published. Robin Marshall seconded and all present voted affirmative.

**Officers' Reports:**

**President:** Larry Clifford –Minimal correspondence from the AKC for various events and a request from the AKC for our club to designate a Legislative Liaison. It was decided to ask Jay Kitchner to take this position. (Since this meeting, Jay has been asked and has accepted the position)

**Vice President:** Laura Bedford-No report at this time

**Secretary:** Cindy Fitzgerald reported limited correspondence;

- Various AKC event closeouts and approvals:
- Requests from Greenwich KC to participate in their 'Meet The Breed' day which was given to PR chair Jani Wolstenholme
- Brochure from a new canine rehab facility in Longmeadow, MA.

**Action Taken by the Board between meetings:** None

**Treasurer:** Nancy Smith –To date balance in account is \$23,633.28 however Nancy said that a large portion of those monies go to the AKC/CHF TarTan Donor Fund and our insurance has to be paid so the 'real' balance in our account is \$17,337.79.

**Committee Reports:**

**Agility:** Maureen McLatchy- The paperwork for our August trial has been sent. Nancy reported \$7,705.49 was the profit from the three February agility trials. That money is designated for our donor advised fund. There was discussion that the membership needs to know that our August agility trials are the foremost source of income for our club, especially this year with no hunt test or field trial. AKC requires a certain number of club members be present at the event and we barely make that quota, plus it is a nice show of support when members come out to support their club. There are many 'unskilled' jobs that can be done, especially in the set up and break down of the event.

**Archives:** Karen Gatchell – no report

**Awards:** Coleen Banks-no report but we understand from the banquet that she will be ordering more rosettes and medallions. Discussion regarding a member asking about returning to plaques for awards resulted in the Board agreeing that money could be an issue at some point in the future and we would continue to stay with the rosettes and certificates for now.

**Banquet:** Laura Bedford- No formal report but discussion was that the banquet was a success again, good numbers, good food, etc.. Robin Marshall mentioned that we usually use the banquet speaker as one of our criteria to meet AKC regulations for show giving clubs. Laura said she was soliciting members for ideas for next year.

**By-Law Review and Revision:** Robin and Cindy-on hold

**'10 Spring Field Trial:** Susan DeSilver- no report but it had been mentioned at the banquet that there would **not be a spring field trial** due to a conflict with an Ohio field trial that would cut our entries. Discussion: Although the Board agreed with the decision to not hold a trial, no one on the Board had been notified of the decision. Had it been known earlier, another event might have been scheduled on our date at Flaherty, such as a field training day or a hunt test Laura will contact Susan and find out why no one was notified and how this impacts our Flaherty seniority with date selection in the future.

**'10 Spring Hunt Test:** Ralph Schmid /Richard Dwyer-no formal report but Ralph had been trying to contact Richard to no avail. Discussion continued from one started at the General membership meeting: With waning interest and entries in NH, would it make more sense to reschedule our hunt tests here in CT or MA. Ralph said that he would pursue possible grounds and date availability here in CT. There was also discussion about 'hooking up' with another breed club and sharing a weekend to try to optimize entries and reduce expenses.

**Health & Genetics:** Candice Bell-Report attached .

It was also reported that the Art Auction to benefit Health and Genetics netted \$412.50.

AKC/CHF had sent a request for TarTan to become a club member of the organization. The Health & Genetics committee was asked whether this would be something good for TarTan and their impression of the memberships are that they are better suited for clubs that may not be as active in the foundation as TarTan is with our own donor fund. Therefore we will not be joining as a club member at this time.

**Inventory:** Laura Bedford-Reported that she will be bringing the inventory back to her house from the storage unit as it made it inconvenient for her to take items to functions. She will have the inventory at the picnic in June.

Cont from page 4.

**Membership:** Dorie Viguers will be replaced as Membership chairman by Kathy King. They are currently working on making it a smooth transition and Dorie will be available to help Kathy through the next few months. All the new information will soon be published in the newsletter as well as the website. Candice Bell has offered to maintain the labels and email list for the club. All chairmen and event committee needing labels should now contact Candice Bell. Kathy will work with her to make sure the lists are continually updated.

**Newsletter:** Jeff & Jessica Martin/Karol Paduch/ Jani Wolstenholme/Ginette Desrosiers-

Changes in the newsletter staff. Ginette has been added as the Mailing Coordinator. She is responsible for having the newsletter printed and getting it mailed out to the membership. Ginette has been checking into printing quotes for places in her area and the prices are much more than what Jeff had been getting at his printer. (Since the meeting it was determined by the newsletter staff that Curtis Printing will continue to print the newsletters and UPS them to Ginette at a total cost that is still well under any local quotes.) Jeff Martin is working in AZ so Karol has taken up as production editor and has done an amazing job.

**Nominating Committee:** Chairman: Liz Wilshere Committee: Nikki Mauonis, Candice Bell, Kerry Scott, Maureen McLatchy Alternates: Liz Gordon & Val Schmid

The slate for 2010 will be:

President: Larry Clifford, Vice President: Laura Bedford, Secretary: Cindy Fitzgerald, Treasurer: Nancy Smith, Board Members to serve a two year term; Robin Marshall and Jani Wolstenholme

**Picnic:** Robin Marshall reported a slightly different schedule this year. The date will be Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Flaherty Field Trial Area and we will have the usual fun and games and good food, along with a Rally seminar. For our hunting section, Robin was pleased to announce that Jim Basham has agreed to come and give a morning seminar for our picnic attendees. He will work individually with each dog from beginner to advanced. He will be using pigeons and quail and the only cost to the members will be for the birds.

Laura is working on a flyer and sign up form.

**Public Education:** Jani reported that it has been difficult to get correspondence going with many of the Scottish festivals (she has been trying to make contact with the festival in RI). Cindy offered to try to get a contact person for the Scottish Festival that is held in Goshen, CT and Robin and Ellen said they would probably again attend the one in Altmont, NY. Val Schmid is taking over as Fidelco coordinator.

**Rescue:** Ellen Shanahan reported very little activity at this time (shh)and that TarTan has been fortunate to have little bills and medical issues recently thanks to the generosity of their members. We have no dogs in rescue but do have some potential homes on a wait list. Because of the number of people we have had 'waiting', she has done some breeder referrals for members that appear to have been successful. Larry Clifford had received the Financial Rescue Report from Kerry Scott which was passed around and accepted by those in attendance.

**Scholarship:** Ginette Desrosiers had given an in depth report at the General membership meeting.

**'10 TarTan Specialty:** Robin Marshall reported that all AKC paperwork was finally approved and that all judges and committee are 'on board'. Secretary is Cathy Hill, photographer is Ken Reed, Judy Harrington will judge breed and juniors, Trudie Whitaker will judge sweeps and Tibby Chase will handle the obedience and rally assignment. Jim MacWalter was asked to purchase another 12x12 E-Z Up tent for the club. There was discussion concerning the possibility of the local English setter Club coming in to the grounds on the Sunday before our show for their specialty. Quite a few pros and cons which would need a lot of discussion with the ES club. Cindy has since spoken to Gail Ryan and she said that this coming year is NOT the year for them to be on our weekend. There was also discussion about the new AKC Grand Champion criteria. Robin will check with Cathy Hill, our secretary, to see how this affects our specialty.

**Supported Entries:** Karol Paduch-No formal report but discussion over upcoming supported entries: Maine in May, Ladies in June and eastern again in December.

**Trophies:** Beth Beatty -No report but she is working on items in the same vein as last year

**Website:** Donnah Brnger-No report but Jani Wolstenholme and she had been discussing some ideas for the website. Install a forum on the website where members can give or get information with areas set aside for committees and/or board members. Have the TarTan Tidings on line-archive old issues and have the current issue password protected . The Board okayed that idea and Donnah has already activated it on the website. Have a TarTan Facebook page. This was also approved by the Board and Donnah has it 'up and running'.

**Delegates Reports:**

**Flaherty:** Susan DeSilver-no report

**HELDCA:** Maureen McLatchy-no report

**GSCA Liaison:** Jane Matteson -No report

**Old Business:**

-Grooming Video; Robin had spoken to a friend of hers that produces commercial videos and they felt that it would probably be a few hundred dollars to produce. There was discussion about formulating a script and format. Some professional handlers have offered their time, however working it into their schedules might be difficult unless we planned to go to their kennels. The Board decided to purchase both the English and Irish Setter videos to get an idea of how we should set something up.

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-2012 GSCA National Specialty; The Board discussed the fact that we had submitted a 'letter of intent' to the GSCA Board and would be following up with a preliminary bid packet in April, followed by a June decision by the GSCA Board. Explanation of GSCA P&P regarding the National specialty resulted in discussion of sites, discussion of potential judges, discussion of event schedule and committees. As a site, Crown Plaza in Warwick, RI submitted a comprehensive proposal with May dates, Cindy will send out a survey of potential judges names to be submitted in the packet, discussion resulted in including both an agility trial and hunt test at the event and also some committee chairs were designated from previously submitted correspondence.

**New Business:** Discussion was started by Laura Bedford regarding TarTan joining in the Setter Symposium which is held yearly in Tolland, CT. The Board agreed that it is a worthwhile event and a Gordon Setter club should be represented so Laura will look into contacting them for next year.

**Next Meeting:**

11:00 am on Saturday July 17, 2010 at Nancy Smith's house

Robin Marshall made a motion to adjourn, Ellen Shanahan seconded and the Board voted in favor.

President Larry Clifford called the meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm

**HEALTH & GENETICS REPORT  
3/20/2010**

The AKC/CHF TT Donor Advised Fund statement of Activity for the period 1/1/2009-12/31/2009 was received during the month of February:

<b>Beginning Balance:</b> .....	\$ 17,680.12
Contributions.....	8,952.00
Interest/Dividend.....	80.23
Realized/Unrealized Gains (Losses).....	2,024.25
 <b>Ending Balance:</b> .....	 \$ 28,736.80

During the month of December a long list of Gordon health concerns was e-mailed to our membership. The members were asked to list, in descending order of emphasis, their tops health concerns for our breed, and return it to the H&G committee. 60% of our membership responded.

The December H&G survey results were:

1. bloat
2. juvenile renal disease
3. lymphosarcoma
4. hemangiosarcoma
5. PRA

The results of the membership poll were factored into the decision making process determining where Donor Advised funds would be directed for research.

Of the twelve 2010 AKC/CHF OAK grants received from the CHF, TT has elected to fund two \$2,500.00 grants:

- Grant 01113: Canine Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma: Characterization and Prognostic Value of Cancer Stem Cells. Primary Investigator: Dr. Timothy O'Brien, DVM, PhD; Institution: University of Minnesota
- Grant 01139: Immune Targeting of Canine Hemangiosarcoma Using A Canine Derived Single Chain Antibody Approach. Primary Investigator: Dr. Nicola Mason, PhD. Institution: University of Pennsylvania School of Vet Med

The above two grants are in keeping with the desires of the membership. Later this year ACORN grants will come to us from the AKC/CHF and it is our profound hope we will be able to sponsor more research that will benefit our black and tans. Also, I want to mention - we would have liked to donate funds to Dr. Mellersh's research into Gordon Setter PRA, but her research is fully funded to date; therefore, at present no additional funds are needed. This does not preclude us from sponsoring her research down the line, it only means no dollars will be earmarked for her now. However, TT is **certainly involved** in Dr. Mellersh PRA research. Individual members from TT have donated DNA directly to her at the Animal Health Trust in the UK. The Gordon Setter CHIC database (which TT initiated) has also donated DNA to her project. We are in contact with Dr. Mellersh and will be kept abreast of her findings. Hopefully, things should start to move quickly by the summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Candice Bell, H&G chair



### TarTan Position Available

Well over 50 years 'young', the TarTan Gordon Setter Club has an abundance of history spanning all aspects of our beloved Gordon Setters.

Personal circumstances have forced our current Archive chairman, Karen Gatchell, to give up the position, so we are now in the market for a new 'keeper of our history'.

Over the years we have accumulated boxes of wonderful memorabilia so the new chairman should have an area that can be dedicated to the storage of this information.

Not to scare anyone, but the initial job may be pretty labor intensive, although the good news is that there is no schedule or strict time frame to adhere to. There are boxes of newsletters, catalogues, pictures, event records as well as club members' records.....it is like a treasure chest of Gordon Setter history! Initially, the chair will have to do a lot of sorting and categorizing to get our collection in some sort of order, but once things are in order...the position will be simply that of adding to the collection.

At some point we would like to think that we could 'electronically store' a lot of the material, but realistically speaking, that is a step far down the road...

If you think you might be interested in this position, please contact:  
Cindy Fitzgerald, TarTan Secretary, PO Box 155, Goshen, CT 06756 or email me at:  
[wdsinke85@aol.com](mailto:wdsinke85@aol.com) or call me at 1-203-592-6541

This is a position that you can 'make your own' and a good way to find out more about your Club and your favorite breed.

*Thank You!*

*Dear TarTan members,*

*Thank you so much for the wonderful basket given to me at the banquet. It was full of so many wonderful things. The very special part of it was being honored by the members. It has been my pleasure to work for TarTan. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I have met many wonderful people because of it.*

*Sincerely,*

*Nancy*

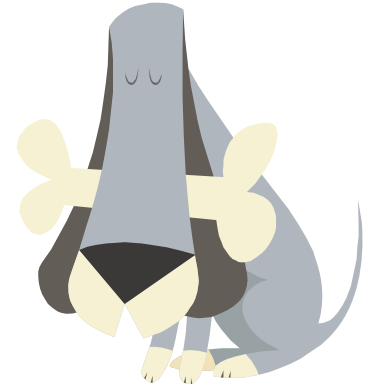
# DOGGIE YUMMY of the MONTH!

## MUTTER'S DAY BARKIN' BANANA BREAD

from Cooking the Three Dog Bakery Way

("makes 1 loaf of no-monkey-business banana-mamma bread")

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour  
 2 teaspoons baking powder  
 2 ripe bananas, mashed (to make 1 cup)  
 1/4 cup molasses  
 1/3 cup canola oil  
 2 large eggs  
 1 apple, cored and diced (about 1 cup)



Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and flour an 8 x 4 inch loaf pan.

Stir together the flour and baking powder in a bowl and set aside. In a large bowl, beat together the bananas, molasses, oil, and eggs, add the ingredients one at a time. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and stir until combined. Fold in the apple. Pour batter into the pan.

Bake for 1 hour, or until toothpick inserted in the center of the loaf comes out clean.

Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then turn out on a wire rack. Cool to room temperature before slicing and serving.

Store in an airtight container for up to 5 days, or wrap well and store in freezer for up to 2 months. (thaw before serving)

**Got a favorite Gordon Goodie or a special treat you would like to share? Send your Recipe Ideas and Suggestions to**



**Karol:** ttgscnews@aol.com **or Jani:** vger4@verizon.net

**for publication in the Newsletter!!**

## Gordon Setter National Specialty

### “Scots on the Rocks”

June 7 - 11, Greeley, Colorado

Hosted by the High Plains Gordon Setter Club

Entries have closed with a total specialty entry of 270, obedience20, and rally 19

The judging schedule with a complete listing of events and times can be found at:  
[www.highplainsgordonsetterclub.com](http://www.highplainsgordonsetterclub.com)

Cindy Fitzgerald has some GSCA National Specialty inventory available—check with her for specific items.

# Wags & Brags & Puppies!

CH. Bran Linn Braxfield Magic Man, "Harry" finished his bench championship at New England Sporting Dog show 3/21/2010. Harry is owned by Nikki Maounis & Candice Bell.

**Litter Announcement:**

**Huntly's** has a litter born April 26, 2010, 4 females, 1 male. 2 females are available. Sire is DC Blackburn Sir Launcelot, JH, dam is Huntly's Lileas of Tartana, JH

★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
★	<b>NEW TITLES – March 2010</b>								★
★	<b><u>CONFORMATION</u></b>								★
★	<b><u>Champion</u></b>								★
★	<b>Ch Bran Linn Braxfield Magic Man (D) 3.21.10</b>								★
★	(Ch O'Burke Maccabee x Ch Bran Linn Heirloom)								★
★	Breeder/Owner: Nikki Maounis & Candice Bell								★
★	<b>Ch Woodsmoke Jersey Bounce RA (D) 3.27.10</b>								★
★	(Ch Gordon Hill Seagem Sportster JH x Ch Kingpoint Woodsmoke Echo JH NJP)								★
★	Breeder: Cindy Fitzgerald & Elizabeth Wilshere;								★
★	Owner Bill Dargay & Diane Dargay								★
★	As published in AKC AWARDS, Vol 30, No 5 –								★
★	May 2010 (Covering events from								★
★	March 1 – 31, 2010)								★
★	Submitted by Karol Paduch								★
★	<a href="mailto:trilogygordons@aol.com">trilogygordons@aol.com</a>								★
★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

**Donations to the AKC/CHF TarTan Gordon Setter Donor Advised Fund**

*The American Kennel Club/Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF) TarTan GS DAF Fund was specifically established to sponsor health research for our breed. It is through your generous and continued support we are able to subsidize qualified researchers investigating genetic disorders affecting the Gordon Setter. Donation forms can be found in the TarTan Tidings, or downloaded at the TarTan web-site [www.tartangsc.org](http://www.tartangsc.org) Contributions are tax deductible. This month's donors are:*

Gwynne McDevitt

In honor of Dixon  
"An important life"

Bandilane Canine Center  
is proud to present

**"Only 15 Points to Go"**

**A Two-Day All-Breed Show Handling Seminar with Greg Strong, Professional Handler**

DATE: July 24 and 25, 2010  
TIME: 9 am to 4 pm - Lunch provided  
LOCATION: Bandilane Canine Center - Stamford, CT

Please go to the website below for more information, fees, and application.

<http://web.ivenue.com/bandilaneschoolfordogs/filecabinet//SeminarFlyer.pdf>

**Spring Garden Toxins – from AKC/Canine Health Foundation**

- Toxic bulbs, plants and flowers include tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, certain lilies, crocus, and lily of the valley. For a detailed chart, go here: [http://www.akcchf.org/pdfs/poisonous\\_plant\\_guide.pdf](http://www.akcchf.org/pdfs/poisonous_plant_guide.pdf)
- Harmful fertilizers and ground cover include cocoa mulch, blood meal, bone meal, and any fertilizer containing disulfoton or organophosphates.

Store all poisonous substances in your home, garage, and yard out of reach of your curious canine, and block access to potentially harmful bulbs and flowers. If you suspect your dog has ingested a poison, call your veterinarian at once; or dial the **Pet Poison Helpline at 800-213-6680.**



# Bulletin Board

## **Notice to Members:**

Election of Officers and the new Board of Directors will be held at the Annual Meeting, at the Picnic on June 27.

### **Slate of Officers and Board members for 2010-2011:**

**President:** Larry Clifford

**Vice President:** Laura Bedford

**Secretary:** Cindy Fitzgerald

**Treasurer:** Nancy Smith

**Board Members:** Robin Marshall & Jani Wolstenholme

(Note the terms of Ralph Schmid and Ellen Shanahan do not expire this year)

### **ATTENTION:**

**All Committee and Events chairs.....**

**Club member mailing labels should now be attained from Candice Bell, 4 Stepping Stone Drive, Broadbrook, CT 0601**

**[FH2OVET@aol.com](mailto:FH2OVET@aol.com)**

**Candice can also provide you with a list of member email addresses**

Are you having trouble paying for veterinary visits? Check out this website for financial assistance.

<http://www.speakingforspot.com/helpayingforveterinarycare.html>

## **CALL TO MEMBERSHIP:**

Have you read a book you think would be useful to others? Did a certain book or author make a difference in your life, training approach or outlook on life and you would like to share that with others?

Send your book recommendations along with a review of the book and author in 500 words or less to our editors!

Karol: [ttgscnews@aol.com](mailto:ttgscnews@aol.com)

Jani: [vger4@verizon.net](mailto:vger4@verizon.net)

## **Upcoming CarTan Supported Entries**

Saturday, June 5, 2010

### ***Ladies' Dog Club***

Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds, Wrentham, Massachusetts

Judge Mr Robert H Slay (NC)

Closes May 19 (MB-F)

Saturday, December 11, 2010

### ***Eastern Dog Club***

Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, Rhode Island

Judge TBA

Closes November 24 (MB-F)

The Bells will have cheek swabs available for "**CHIC DNA Repository for Genetic Research**" (free, club pays for members) at the picnic. There are still a few AKC/DNA identification swabs available for people who may be interested.

**Meet The Breeds at Greenwich Kennel Club**

Saturday, June 12

Taylor Farm Park

East Norwalk, CT

## ***Highland Games***

Rhode Island Scottish Heritage Festival

June 12, 2010 - 9am to 5pm

Washington County Fairgrounds

[www.riscot.org/](http://www.riscot.org/)

Western Massachusetts Highland

Games and Celtic Festival

(Tentatively scheduled for June 26, 2010)

Check website for updates

[www.wmhg.org/](http://www.wmhg.org/)

17<sup>th</sup> Annual Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival

Look Park, 300 North Main St, Florence (Northampton), MA 01062

Saturday, July 17, 2010 - 9:00 am to 9:30 pm

<http://www.glasgowlands.org/>



## TARTAN GORDON SETTER CLUB, INC. NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The TarTan Gordon Setter Club, Inc. has applications available for one (1) \$1,500 scholarship for the 2010-2011 academic year.

### Applicant requirements:

- Owns a Gordon Setter or
- Is the child or spouse of someone who owns a Gordon Setter
- Will be enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited institution of higher learning for the 2010-2011 academic year
- Major field of study shall be related to Animal Sciences (including, but not limited to, veterinary, zoology, wildlife management, ecology, behavioral science, etc.) or Comparative Medicine (including, but not limited to) microbiology, pathology, biotechnology, genomics, molecular genetics, etc.)

The application can be downloaded from the TarTan GSC Inc. website;

[www.tartangsc.org](http://www.tartangsc.org) ;

or is available from:

TarTan GSC Inc.

c/o Ginette Desrosiers

32 Baggs Hill Rd.

Granby, MA 01033-9508

(413)467-7919

email: [ginetteld@comcast.net](mailto:ginetteld@comcast.net)

The deadline for submitting completed applications is May 31, 2010.

### TarTan Tidings

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Phyllis Lundy  
Karol Paduch  
Doris Viguers  
Jani Wolstenholme  
Ellen Shanahan  
Jay Kitchener  
Val Schmid

#### Mailing:

Ginette Desrosiers

#### PLEASE SEND ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION TO:

**Karol and Jani.  
Deadline is the 15th  
of the month**

TarTan Tidings  
Advertising Rates

Business Card	\$10.00
1/4 Page	\$15.00
1/2 Page	\$20.00
Full-Page Ad	\$35.00

#### No charge for:

Wags-n-Brags  
Wiggles-n-Giggles  
Or Small Lost & Found  
or In Memoriam

**ATTENTION MEMBERS!!!!**  
**PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE!!!!**  
**HELP OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN OUT BY RETURNING YOUR**  
**RENEWAL IN A TIMELY FASHION SO THAT SHE DOES NOT HAVE**  
**TO SEND OUT SEPARATE REMINDERS TO EACH MEMBER!**

**TARTAN GORDON SETTER CLUB**  
**2010 - 2011 MEMBERSHIP DUES and DONATIONS**

Renew now and beat the rush! Your TarTan membership year begins and dues are **Due by July 1.**  
**Dues are \$20.00 for each member or \$25 for a family membership.**

Send to:

**TarTan Membership Chairman**  
**Kathy King**  
**459 Huckle Hill Rd**  
**Bernardston, MA 01337**

Please fill in your name and address below and enclose with your dues. Please also consider a donation to Gordon Setter Health and Genetics, TarTan Scholarship Program, TarTan Rescue, or another program. Prompt payment will save the club the expense of extra notices.

Please make checks payable to: **TarTan Gordon Setter Club**

TarTan Gordon Setter Club - 2010 -2011 Membership Dues

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ please check if any there have been any changes.

Membership Dues	\$ _____
Donation to Gordon Setter Health and Genetics	\$ _____
Donation to TarTan Scholarship Program	\$ _____
Donation to TarTan Rescue	\$ _____
Other Donation (Please specify _____)	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

I am willing to help out with the following committee(s) and/or events:

Adoption/Rescue       Field Trial       Hunting Tests       Picnic and Match  
 Obedience/Agility Trials       Public Education       Supported Entries  
 Rollicking Good Times (fund-raising)       Newsletter

Other talents/services you can offer:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Subscribe now for one year of business card advertisements in TarTan Tidings for \$30. Send copy to Jani Wolstenholme, 68 Malbone Rd., Newport, RI 02840. You can include the fee with your membership renewal.**



# All-Setter Symposium, April 17



Photos by Laura Bedford and Ginette Desrosiers  
Story on page 5.

**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

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The better to slurp you with, my dear!

**First Class Mail**

**President:** Larry Clifford  
**Vice President:** Laura Bedford  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Smith  
**Secretary:** Cindy Fitzgerald  
**Website:** www.tartangsc.org

