

The Junior Handler Experience

By Jim MacWalter

In the past year or so I have become involved in the wonderful world of Junior Handling. I didn't start out to become involved, it was just a serendipitous occurrence.

It began with a Junior appearing at our weekly handling class at the South Shore Dog Training Club in Quincy, MA. That Junior Handler's name was Elodie Cascarano and she came to us to get some advice on handling her mother's Portuguese Water Dogs. Elodie was young, but a very quick study. She was and is intense in her desire to work with dogs. Elodie not only pays very close attention to all instructions given to her, but she understands and absorbs the instructions as well.

Not long after Elodie's arrival, my granddaughter, Anna, asked if she could learn handling also. I have difficulty saying no to my grandchildren, especially when the request is tied to my beloved Gordons. Several more Juniors have joined Elodie and Anna at our classes. I can honestly tell you that all of the instructors are delighted to have juniors joining our classes.

The AKC defines Junior Handlers as being between 10 and 18 years of age to participate. They must win three first placements in the Novice class before advancing to the Open class and Judges must be approved by the AKC to judge Junior classes. The dogs that the junior handlers exhibit must be owned by them, a member of their family, or a relative. That is to say, if you wish a Junior Handler to show a dog of yours in Junior competition, the Junior's name must be on the AKC registration for that dog.

[Cont'd on page 3]

Junior lineup at Framingham District KC, Wrentham MA – June 5, 2011





Left & Below, South Shore KC Match, May

Left: Anna's 1st Match

Below Left: Elodie Best in Match

Below Right: Elodie in a class at the Match



Above: Anna showing at Ladies' Dog Club

Left: Juniors in handling class.

[Cont'd from page 1]

When most people think of Juniors they picture them neatly dressed in the conformation ring with a well groomed dog. But there are juniors who also show up at performance events, such as hunt tests, who send their dogs into the field with great expertise. Nothing pleases performance event attendees more than seeing a junior at the end of the lead. I have personally witnessed young handlers at hunt tests who have amazed me in their professionalism in handling their dogs.

Both Elodie and Anna have expressed interest in hunt tests so maybe we will see them at our hunt tests in the future. Nothing instills your pride in youth more than being shown up by a youngster in the bird fields, even if it is also a very humbling experience. As you may have noticed, I have digressed from the conformation ring to the bird field. I beg your forgiveness and indulgence as the bird fields is where my heart lies.

For your enjoyment, I have provided the Tidings with some photos of some fairly recent events that Elodie, Anna and some other juniors have shown at. These events range from shows over the past year, (I have tons more, but we'll save that for some other time).

The next time you are at a show, take a moment or two to go and watch the Juniors compete. I guarantee you will not be disappointed. These young individuals compete with an intensity that is seldom seen in the adult competitions. They are constantly working on improving their professionalism in the ring. The teamwork and love exhibited between the Junior and their dog is abundantly evident to all present. Perhaps while sitting ringside your mind may wander a bit and perhaps a daydream or two might drift behind your mind's eye. A daydream of a junior showing your pride and joy. I can assure you this is a very achievable dream

When the competition is over, get up and go talk with these wonderful young achievers. Congratulate them on their performance whether or not they have a ribbon in their hands, it doesn't matter. After all they are doing their very, very best out there and we are privileged to be looking through a window at the future. We need these young folks more than they need us. Every ounce of encouragement should be given to them. It is their blood that has to be infused into our dog world or we will most assuredly and inevitably lose it.

Credit for photography to John Healy (Canine Action Photos) and Joyce MacWalter

Editor's Note: In July, Elodie became the proud owner of her very own Gordon Setter puppy.

~ Reminder ~

Entries for the October 10 Specialty close on Wednesday, September 21.
The Premium List is available on the TarTan Website:
www.tartangsc.org



Everyday Dog Treat Biscuits

Submitted by Donna Traeger

2 teaspoons dry yeast
 1/2 cup lukewarm water
 2 tablespoons dry parsley
 2 tablespoons minced garlic
 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
 3 tablespoons honey
 1 egg
 5-6 cups whole wheat flour

Directions:

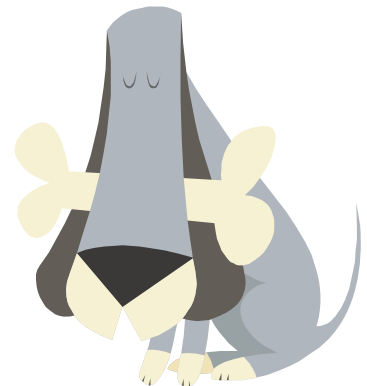
Preheat oven to 350 ° F (180 ° C).

In a large bowl, dissolve yeast in warm water. Stir in the parsley, garlic, broth, honey, and egg. Gradually blend in flour, adding enough to form a stiff dough.

Transfer to a floured surface and knead until smooth (about 3-5 minutes). Shape the dough into a ball, and roll to 1/4-inch (6 mm) thick. Using small bone-shaped cookie cutters, make biscuits! Transfer to ungreased baking sheets, spacing them about 1/4 inch (6 mm) apart. Gather up the scraps, roll out again, and cut additional biscuits.

Bake for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and turn over. Bake for an additional 15 minutes, or until lightly browned on both sides. Let cool overnight. (After we finish baking all batches of biscuits, we turn off the oven, then spread all the biscuits out on one baking sheet and set them in the oven to cool overnight. The extra time in the oven as it cools off helps make the treats crispier and crunchier.)

Makes several dozen small bones that keep and freeze well. We like these biscuits because they're quick and easy and we always have the ingredients on hand to make them. Our boys like them because they're good!



TarTan Specialty—October 10



Hey all of you TarTan members, it's me, Pixie, your Rover Reporter here to remind you about our Specialty coming up October 10th! You know that it is always a cool show and lots of really dashing and beautiful Gordons get all spiffed up to attend. You won't believe how great the Raffle will be and we will have all of our National merchandise for sale. There are even a couple of new items for sale, orange tee-shirts for hunting (this reporters favorite) and hooded sweat-shirts for those crisp fall mornings. The best thing is the raffle for the Danchin print of beautiful hunting Gordons.

There will be lunch with the club providing the main dish and beverages. As always, club members will be invited to bring their favorite pot luck item to share.

Start making plans, fire up those campers, cars and vans and head to South Windsor CT for the best show around!

Pixie, the Rover Reporter

The "Duck Toss" is coming to the TarTan Specialty!

The 2012 GSCA fundraising committee will be sponsoring a "Duck Toss" at the 2011 TarTan GSC Specialty on October 10, 2011.

Basically, it's a 50/50 raffle... \$5.00 a duck and the duck that lands the closest to the designated center will split the cash pot with the club.

So start strengthening your tossing arm and practice your aim because the competition can be tough!

National Specialty Merchandise

See pages 14 & 15 of the August Tidings for photos and order form for National Specialty Merchandise, or purchase your items at the TarTan Specialty !!

TarTan Gordon Setter Club, Inc.-Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Sunday, July 17, 2011-Ipswich, MA

President Laura Bedford called the meeting to order at 9:52 am

Attendance:

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

Quorum Certification:

The Secretary certified a quorum was present.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Tabled until minutes are published in the next newsletter

Officers' Reports:

President: Laura Bedford- Discussion of AKC 'Opt In' Letter sent to the Club. Laura will contact the AKC to get more information

Vice President: Ralph Schmid-Letter from Dianne Avery regarding our continuing the Senior Handling competition at the 2012 GSCA National.

Secretary: Cindy Fitzgerald reported limited correspondence; Financial report from NE Sporting Association regarding our March supported entries (we received \$23.40 as our share) Request from NE Sporting Association for potential judges' names for 2012 shows. (we always decline a preference and use their panel) Thank you letter from the Alzheimer's Association for our donation in Alan Haberman's name. Request from GSCA NFT Committee for trophy donations (Cindy will forward to Nancy and ask her to send TarTan's standard \$50 donation)

Action Taken by the Board between meetings: Donation to the Alzheimer's Foundation in Alan Haberman's name.

Treasurer: Nancy Smith sent a report. Balance of account is \$8,684.10. Recent bills paid were \$1,500 to scholarship/\$50. for Flaherty ad

Committee Reports:

Agility: Maureen McLatchy- No report. Next trials will be August 13 & 14 in Amherst, NH. Usual discussion about the agility trial being the main source of income for the club and the plea for the membership to try to support.

AKC Legislative Liaison: Jay Kitchener- No report. Laura will contact Jay to see about getting information to the Tidings.

Archives: Donnah Brnger-No report

Awards: Coleen Banks-No report

Banquet: Laura Bedford- Reported that she is still looking for a new venue in the Springfield area. Discussion about areas to look with Springfield or possibly Sturbridge as some choices.

Field Trials: Susan DeSilver- No report but dates are October 22 & 23, 2011 in East Windsor, CT

Health & Genetics: Candice Bell-Report sent on the steps needed to begin formation of the 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation. Board discussion resulted in some decisions and some questions which Cindy will report to the H&G Committee.

Hunt Tests: Ralph Schmid/Mark Gallagher- Reported the trial held here in CT was successful and well attended considering that other tests this past spring had to be canceled for lack of entries. Discussion whether the fall hunt test would be held in NH on Nov 5 & 6 as previously reported. Cindy had tried to contact both Mark Gallagher and Richard Dwyer to find out whether paperwork had been submitted for the Fall. As of the meeting, neither had responded and Laura offered to call Richard. Since it would be too late to file paperwork for a Fall date in CT, it was determined that unless there was a hunt test in NH, the Fall 2011 would be canceled. Cindy reported that she had been contacted by the ISCNE for the possibility of sharing dates and running companion hunt tests on the same weekend. They have spring dates. Board discussion was very positive to sharing a weekend, thereby increasing entries and decreasing expenses. Cindy referred the contact person to Ralph.

Inventory: Laura Bedford-on hold while we concentrate on the 2012 national inventory

Membership: Kathy King- No report. Discussion about Kathy's procedure for new members and whether we should offer an electronic newsletter during the 'wait' period. Laura will contact Kathy to discuss.

National Specialty-2012: Cindy Fitzgerald-Reported everything moving forward. Discussion regarding the indoor space available at the hotel for obedience/rally and veteran sweeps, logistics for fencing and equipment, basic grounds discussion, potential meeting in September planned.

Newsletter: Karol Paduch/ Jani Wolstenholme/ Ginette Desrosiers-Jani mentioned that they would be producing a double issue for July because they had been waiting for articles in June.

Picnic: Robin Marshall- Reported that it was again a successful event. Next year the plans are to concentrate only on bird work and games in order to keep people engaged. Possibly a CGC test. Discussion about the new 'Star' puppy certificate similar to a junior CGC.

Public Education: Jani Wolstenholme **Fidelco:** Val Schmid

Jani mentioned receiving an email about the availability of AKC breed packets but since they charge for everything, discussion was that we really did not need any of it. Also discussion regarding no support to the Fidelco Walk this past May. The board decided to encourage Val to keep the club aware of the Fidelco activities but not physically support the walk for a few years

Setter Symposium: Shareen Brown- No report but discussion was that many members attended and had a great time

Rescue: Treasurer Kerry Scott sent the financial report and Ellen Shanahan sent a short report stating that we had no dogs currently in rescue and had recently assisted in a rescue with GSCA.

Scholarship: Ginette Desrosiers- No report but there was discussion regarding the one recipient, Victoria Sweeney. Nancy Smith had wanted a discussion to revisit the amount of the scholarship. Currently the yearly scholarship is \$1,500 (if two awards it would be \$750 each) Board decided that the \$1,500 per year was a fair amount whether it was given to one recipient or divided between two.

'11 TarTan Specialty: Robin Marshall- Robin reported that all the judges, committee and paperwork were all set. It will be a bit of a tricky setup this year as the ESCNE is doing specialties at the site on the Saturday and Sunday but we will be in touch with their club to coordinate setup and takedown

Supported Entries: Karol Paduch-No report but the next supported entry is Eastern in RI in December and again supporting the NESGA in March.

Trophies: Liz Wilshere- No report

Website: Donnah Brnger- No report

Delegates Reports:

Flaherty: Susan DeSilver-No report

HELDCA: Maureen McLatchy-No report

GSCA Liaison: Alison Rosskamp -No report

Old Business:

-Discussion of the EZ Up theft, changing storage units and buying three more. Robin will look into switching storage unit companies and we will wait until after the end of summer to replace them.

New Business:

Next Meeting:

11:00 am on Saturday October 29, 2011 at Nancy Smith's house in East Hartford, CT

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

President Laura Bedford called the meeting adjourned at 11:22 am

PRA rcd4 Kits available at the TarTan Specialty

A limited supply of cheek swab PRA rcd-4 test kits will be available to our membership at the TarTan specialty October 10, 2011. The Animal Health Trust has offered this test at a 20% reduction in price for a cost of \$51.45 per dog. Checks should be made payable to The TarTan Gordon Setter Club, Inc. Information needed to complete the form is: dog's registered name, registration number, microchip number, owner's name, address, e-mail, and fax number. Also, the OFA has offered a reduced price of \$7.50 per dog to enroll the dog's results in the OFA Gordon Setter PRA registry. Anyone interested in signing up for a test, please e-mail Candice Bell at fh2ovet@aol.com

TARTAN GORDON SETTER RESCUE FUND
INCOME AND EXPENSES
FISCAL YEAR 2011

7/01/10 through 03/31/11

CHECKING ACCOUNT
 BALANCE at 7/01/10 \$ 11,713.47

INCOME

Breeder Support	50.00
Checking Account Interest	4.48
Donation	100.00
Membership Donations	290.00
Memorials	125.00

TOTAL INCOME \$ 569.48

EXPENSES

TarTan Short-Term Loan	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
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TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 3,000.00

CHECKING ACCOUNT
 BALANCE at 03/31/11 \$ 9,282.95

~ MEMBERSHIP NEWS ~

Change of Address: Shirley LaFlamme, 16 Brooks Road, Winchendon MA 01475-1903

**The next Tidings is our big, annual all-color issue, so plan on getting
 your ads and photos in!!**

TarTan Tidings

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**PLEASE SEND ITEMS
FOR PUBLICATION
TO:**

Karol and Jani.

**Deadline is the 10th
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

TarTan Events

Monday, October 10, 2011

JarJan Specialty

South Windsor CT

Breed & Jrs Thomas Baldwin (MA)
Obed & Rally Dr Ellen Adomelis (CT)
Sweepstakes Judith Brown (ALB)
Closes Sep 21

October 22 & 23, 2011

JarJan Fall Field Trial

Flaherty FTA, East Windsor CT

Saturday, December 11, 2011

JarJan Supported Entry

Eastern Dog Club

Providence RI

Judge Marianne Reber (OH)
Closes Nov 23 (MB-F)

Glen 'DOR



Kennel

AKC Hunt Test Judge

Home to quality Gordon Setters

for show or field

The Aristocrat of the Setters

Jim & Joyce MacWalter

55 Puritan Road

Pembroke, MA. 02359

781-826-4737

hdtravler@comcast.net

TarTan August Agility Trials

The TarTan All Breed Agility Trials, held on August 13 and 14, were another financial success for the club. Special thanks to the following members for all their hard work which made the trials run so smoothly. Joanne Williamson was our chief course builder and Shirley Laflamme was our ringmaster for the weekend. These ladies work start to finish each day of the trial and also do the Friday night setup with me. Also, helping with setup on Friday was Nancy Large. On Saturday we had Jim MacWalter and Richard Dwyer who did whatever jobs needed to be done all day long. Larry Clifford and Cindy Fitzgerald worked hard all day Saturday and Sunday. TarTan is lucky to have such hard working folks help with the running of these events. Our judge was Erin Schaeffer from Foxboro, MA who had some challenging courses for us to run on.

There were a record six Gordons entered but unfortunately two of them couldn't make it due to their owner/handler getting injured right before the event. We missed Liz Wilshere and Bizz and Stella and wish Liz a speedy recovery from her hamstring injury. Special thanks to Liz for securing us wonderful items from the Wellness company for our worker raffle. The volunteers really appreciate our great raffle each trial. We always have a great core of volunteers to man the ring positions at our trial due to the club taking care of our workers so well.

The four Gordons who did run at the trial were Ella and Tooter and Cindy Fitzgerald, Newman and Nancy Large, and Jake and Maureen McLatchy. All of them showed what a good time can be had running agility.

Gordon qualifiers were:

Saturday Excellent B Standard 1st place Jake (McLatchy)

Sunday Excellent B Standard 1st place Jake (McLatchy)

Two dogs earned their MACH (Master Agility Champion) titles at our trials. Lori Daigle-Santos and her awesomely fast Chihuahua Squish earned their MACH. Anna Ericsson and her Sheltie girl Charlie finished their first MACH also on Sunday.

TarTan's next agility trials will be held on Feb 4 and 5 and Feb 12, 2012. Hope to see some of you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen McLatchy
Agility Trial Chair



GSCA National Fundraiser Raffle
Matted, framed and Signed Leon Danchin print

Photo of the print is on the back page

Drawing to take place at the 2011 TarTan GSC Specialty on October 10, 2011
Winner need not be present

Tickets \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

For tickets contact:

Denise Sweeney- Dwindcrest2@aol.com

2749, Rte 737

Kempton, PA 19529

or

Cindy Fitzgerald- wdsinke85@aol.com

PO Box 155

Goshen, CT 06756

Or visit at our website:

<http://www.tartangsc.org/2012-GSCANationalSpecialty/store/raffle-signed-leon-danchin-print/>



Beachcombing on the rock-bound coast of Maine.

(Acadia National Park)

First Class Mail

President: Laura Bedford
Vice President: Ralph Schmid
Treasurer: Nancy Smith
Secretary: Cindy Fitzgerald
Website: www.tartangss.org



32 Bages Hill Road
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