

SACCARAPPA YAPPER

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Member of the American Kennel Club
Established 1966
Call us at 854-DOGS or visit us at SOCDOGS.com

April 2011

Next newsletter deadline: May 10, 2011

2011 Officers & Board:

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PAST PRESIDENT:	Chris Berg
AKC DELEGATE:	Stephanie Ilka

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 27, 2011 @ 7pm
at the Barron Center
Brighton Avenue in Portland

Refreshments: Pat Aube, Chris Berg, Rusty Morrison, Gene Nardi

MEMO TO MEMBERS:

This is my first attempt at doing our newsletter online.... please be patient! Please send any news and/or brags to me at cmarx29707@aol.com. Send anything you think the membership would be interested in.

Lyme Disease Linked to Aggression

LYME DISEASE AND/OR LYME VACCINE REACTION AGGRESSION IS OFTEN MISDIAGNOSED AS A FORM OF "RAGE " SYNDROME. SUDDEN, SERIOUS AGGRESSION IN A DOG THAT PREVIOUSLY EXHIBITED NO AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR WAS REPORTED AS "CHARACTERISTIC " OF THE BULL BREEDS IN THE 80S. WHEN IT EMERGED IN SPRINGER SPANIELS, IT WAS ATTRIBUTED TO AN INHERITED FLAW INTRODUCED BY AN OUTSTANDING ENGLISH IMPORT.

Staff © [TheDogPlace](#) We now know there may other reasons for such behavioral anomalies. The entire truth may never be known but we feel it is our duty at TheDogPlace to present Lyme Disease information. If providing you knowledge can save one dog from being PTS (killed) when in fact, it needs veterinary treatment, we will have done our job.

Lyme Vaccine background. Many years ago a pharmaceutical company charged that a competitor had released a vaccine for Lyme Disease before it had been diagnosed in the canine. At that time, it was to say the least, a rare thing and is still one of those —non-core vaccines that the veterinary profession now considers optional rather than a recommended vaccine. [More on that subject](#) in the library but this situation begs for study and input from those who, upon reflection, may have experienced similar situations which their vets did not relate to a recent vaccination. Here is an example from Peppertree Rescue and we ask that anyone with a well-documented occurrence contact Peppertree or our [Editor](#).

..... MOJO had continued to do well, extremely well after his treatment for Lyme disease which seemingly eradicated his sudden and serious aggression. On Saturday, we had an outdoor clinic/book & bake sale and in the beginning he was just fantastic: our good old happy boy back. Nothing rattled him, not even some snipping from an older, "grouchy" Golden girl. He ljust looked at her and turned away like "Bad manners, ma'm. —I'm a good boy."

During the last hour of the four-hour event, however, his behavior spiraled downhill badly. The first (and second) episode were inexplicable and frightening.

One of our volunteer's sons (around 10 -11) had been charmed by him and even asked his parents if they could foster him. His mom explained that a dog with any aggression in its past can't be fostered or placed in a home with children – but added that it seemed he had really been cured by having the Lyme treated. Later Garrett was walking with his father, who had Mojo, and all was fine. Garrett then turned to leave and Mojo launched himself at the boy, growling and clearly intending to do harm. The father stopped him of course and Garrett turned back to see what the commotion had been about. Mojo settled down again, tail wagging, 'smiling' at Garrett – the same nice dog he'd been before. But when Garrett again turned away to go elsewhere, Mojo did it again --launched himself after him trying to attack and hurt.

We, of course, crated him and assigned someone to stay beside him. He would seem fine for a while, but on two occasions, as some children were calmly walking nearby, he went "ballistic", growling and trying to jump through the crate to get to them. One of our volunteers wrote in this morning that she had recently had a chance to discuss this with her vet, who had been to a Lyme conference.

I asked her if she had heard about aggression with Lyme positive dogs and she said yes it means it has started attacking their neurological system and unfortunately she felt there was little hope for them once it got this far. With a great deal of heartbreak, we have to assume that this is the case with Mojo. Treatment helped, dramatically, but it didn't totally reverse the damage, apparently. And it's turned him into a sporadically -unpredictably -dangerous dog. Heartbreaking.

We've also learned in all of this that Lyme is from the same family as syphilis. As history students will remember, that too could cause mental derangement and violence, and that too was not reversible. So --unhappy, very upsetting conclusion, but important knowledge still. I wonder if rescues in areas which have had more Lyme cases for a longer time have seen an increase in inexplicable aggression in dogs they felt pretty sure had good temperament?

Betsy Sommers, Peppertree Rescue Albany, NY www.peppertree.org

We contacted Peppertree re: any additional info or occurrences. And by the way, the website indicates a dedication and capability beyond that of the average rescue group. Worth a visit!! The only new information was that we had a similar case afterward, unfortunately with the same results-as Ms. Sommers post noted, once the disease attacks the nervous system to the point that it can result in aggressive behavior, there is no treatment to reverse the effects.

David Sawicki Secretary/Treasurer—Email: psawicki@capital.net www.peppertree.org

Southern Maine Coastal Classic

Hosted by:

**York County Kennel Club of Maine, Inc.
&
Vacationland Dog Club, Inc.**

May 19-22, 2011

**Wassamski Springs Campground
56 Saco St.
Scarborough, Maine**

**Four days of Conformation, Obedience & Rally
Supported Entries & Specialties**

**Friday, May 20, 2011 Bred By Extravaganza
Saturday, May 21, 2011 Best Puppy in Show Competition
New this year: Versatility available in Obedience**

**The Pine Tree State Doberman Pincher Club will hold a Specialty on
Saturday & Supported Entry on Sunday**

**The Yankee Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club will have a Supported Entry
With Sweeps on Saturday**

**Check our website for details
www.yorkcountykennelclub.homestead.com or
www.vacationlanddogclub.org**

For campground accommodations visit www.wassamkisprings.com

Saccarappa Obedience Club Board Meeting was held Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at Chris Berg's home. It was called to order by President Mary Jo McCormack at 7:10 P.M.

Secretary's report was accepted as read after the following change, no Pre-Novice offered at the trial in September.

Treasurer's report was accepted as read. Motion to pay the bills was made by Chris and seconded by Bob Cuzner. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

We received the Premium list from Casco Bay.

Committee Reports:

The trial has not been approved yet because of the fact Titling classes need a judge assigned.

Unfinished Business:

The first aid kit is at the Amory.

Can we get just a stanchion for a jump? Mary will see if J & J can do just a stanchion or just sets. Maybe we need to get new ones for the trailer and taking the trailer jump to the Armory. Claire will see if Meghan can make one jump for us.

We need to do lunch tickets for the Show 'N Goes. Claire will make them up.

New Business:

The Board went over the Standing Rules and will get back to the membership after they complete the changes. The Board hopes to have the changes made by the next monthly meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bob Tripp and seconded by Brenda. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tripp, Recording Secretary

Saccarappa Obedience Club Regular Monthly Meeting March 23, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Saccarappa Obedience Club was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, at the Barron Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by President, Mary Jo McCormack. There were 21 members present.

Secretary's report was approved as read.

Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Correspondence:

Salt City Cluster sent the Club a flyer regarding their Matches that will occur on April 1, 2 and 3.

Also received a flyer from the Maine Tracking Club which is holding a one day Tracking Workshop in July.

Committee Reports:

The Club needs people to help at the Show 'N Go on March 27. Bob Cuzner is not going to be there so can someone do the Novice run thrus for him and set up the ring. Please be there at 8:30 A.M.

Unfinished Business:

Mary Tripp found out the jump prices at J & J Dog Supplies to be:

Painted Set of 3 Jumps \$445.00
Painted High Jump only \$220.00
Painted Broad Jump only \$149.00
Painted Bar Jump only \$149.00
Unpainted High Jump only \$195.00
Unpainted Broad Jump only \$129.00

New Business:

Has everyone had a chance to look at the changes to the Standing Rules?

Special Classes are ones that are not offered as a normal class that someone outside the Club runs.

If you take a class outside of SOC give Brenda proof of payment and you will be reimbursed.

A long discussion took place on the changes to the Standing Rules.

Joey Shaw made a motion that the rules should be adopted as written and seconded by Nanci. Motion passed.

Should we have a class coordinator on the Board?

What does everyone think about a \$1,000 scholarship to be used by a Club member and they would give a detailed report to the Club about what they learned? Needs to be developed further before we implement this change.

We need two coordinators. Committee needs to meet quickly. Let Mary Jo know if you are interested.

Motion to adjourn made at 8:35 P.M. by Nanci and seconded by Bob Cuzner. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tripp, Recording Secretary

BEGINNER NOVICE OPTIONAL TITLING CLASS

(effective July 1, 2010)

*We are offering this class at this year's trial . . .
So here's all you need to know!*

Section 1. Beginner Novice Class. The Beginner Novice class shall be for dogs that have not won the BN title. The Beginner Novice class is an optional titling class that may be offered by clubs at obedience events. Judges for this class must be approved to judge Novice or higher classes. If eligible as defined in these regulations, dogs entered in Beginner Novice A or Beginner Novice B may also be entered in any other obedience classes.

Section 2. Beginner Novice A Class. To be eligible for Beginner Novice A, a handler must own the dog entered, or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family, and may not have previously handled any dog that has earned any AKC Obedience title. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. No dog may be entered in both Beginner Novice A and Beginner Novice B at any trial.

Beginner Novice B Class. The owner or any other person may handle dogs in this class to earn a BN title. Owners may enter more than one dog in this class. No dog may be entered in both Beginner Novice A and Beginner Novice B at any trial.

Section 3. Beginner Novice Exercises and Scores. The exercises and maximum scores in the Beginner Novice classes:

1. Heel on Leash 40 points
 2. Figure Eight 40 points
 3. Sit for Exam 40 points
 4. Sit Stay 40 points
 5. Recall 40 points
- Maximum Total Score 200 points

Section 4. Beginner Novice Title. The letters BN may be added after the name of each dog that has been certified by two different judges to have received qualifying scores in Beginner Novice classes at three licensed or member obedience trials. That dog will receive a Beginner Novice certificate from the AKC. Suggested judging rate of ten dogs per hour.

Section 5. Heel on Leash. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise will be "Forward" and "Exercise Finished." Rally signs will be used for this exercise. Signs to be used are "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal," "Fast" and "Halt/Sit." "Fast" means that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. Turns will be used only when the handler is moving at a normal speed. Both change of pace signs must be followed by a normal sign. Turn signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated. Two of each turn sign must be available for the judge's use. The "Halt/Sit" sign will be used once at the end of the exercise. The judge should standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class. The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized. The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The judge will ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward." The handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the "Halt/Sit" sign, the handler will stop. The dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal. The judge will order, "Exercise finished" at the completion of this exercise.

Section 6. Heel on Leash, Scoring. If a handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash, constantly talking to the dog or is adapting to the dog's pace, that dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score for this exercise. Minor deductions shall be made for lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a halt, and other heeling imperfections. Deductions should also be made for a handler who guides the dog with the leash or does not walk at a brisk pace. A one time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, and atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.) Minor deductions will be made for additional commands or signals to heel or for failure of dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow. While scoring this exercise, the judge should be near enough to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog without interfering with either.

Section 7. Figure Eight. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise are: "Forward," "Halt," and "Exercise Finished." For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between the two stewards, who will be standing 8 feet apart. The Figure Eight will be performed on leash; the handler may go around either steward first. After the judge asks, "Are you ready?" and gives the order, "Forward," the handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. After each halt, it is permissible for the handler to give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again. A one time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty.

Section 8. Figure Eight, Scoring. Scoring is the same as the Heel on Leash exercise.

Section 9. Sit For Exam. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment. Orders are: "Sit your dog and leave when you are ready," "Back to your dog" and "Exercise finished." This exercise is to be performed with the dog on a 6 foot leash. On the judge's order, the handler will command the dog to sit. The handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet to the end of the leash, turn and face the dog. The judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the judge will touch only

the dog's head. On the order "Back to your dog," the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog. The dog must remain sitting until the judge has said, "Exercise finished."

Section 10. Sit For Exam, Scoring. The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay, except for such things as rough treatment by the handler or active resistance by the dog to sit. Either of these will be penalized substantially. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it stands, lies down, or moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination, or growls, snaps, or displays resentment. Minor deductions will be made for any tightening of the leash during the exercise. Substantial deductions will be made for an extra command to the dog after the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay and left the heel position. Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a dog that moves its feet at any time or stands or moves away after the examination has been completed. Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for shyness.

Section 11. Sit Stay – Handler Walk Around the Ring. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position. Orders for this exercise are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog," and "Exercise finished." The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. Prior to starting the exercise, the judge will ask if the handler is ready. The leash remains attached to the dog's collar and will be dropped/placed on the ground between the dog and the handler. When the judge gives the order "Sit your dog," the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting. The judge will order "Leave your dog," and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and immediately proceed to walk around the inside perimeter of the ring in a direction as indicated by the judge. Upon completing a full perimeter walk around the ring, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the judge will give the order "Exercise finished."

Section 12. Sit Stay, Scoring. A non-qualifying score (NQ) is required for the dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the sit position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining. A substantial deduction will be made for a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, that barks or whines only once or twice, or that changes position after the handler has returned to the heel position and before the judge has given the order, "Exercise finished." Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for any additional commands to the dog after the handler has commanded and/or signaled the dog to stay. Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the judge has ordered the handler to leave their dog, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit. These will be penalized substantially; in extreme cases, the dog may be excused. The judge will not give the "Exercise finished" order until the handler has returned to heel position.

Section 13. Recall. The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly.

Orders are: "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," and "Exercise finished." The leash is removed for this exercise and kept by the handler. On order from the judge, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward, approximately 25 feet, to a location as directed by the judge and turn to face the dog. On the judge's order or signal, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop, and sit in front near the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. (No finish will be required of the dog by the handler.) After the judge orders "Exercise finished," the leash is reattached to the dog's collar.

A one time single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, attaboy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

Section 14. Recall, Scoring. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it is given an additional command and/or signal to stay, if more than two commands and/or signals are required for the dog to

come, if it fails to come, if it moves from the place it was left before being called and/or signaled to come, or if it does not come close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a handler's extra command or signal to come or to sit, or if the dog fails to come at a brisk trot or gallop, or fails to sit. Minor deductions will be made for slow or poor sits.

JUMP INTO SPRING!



Send the editor your pictures and we will try to include some in each newsletter as space allows.