



Herd the News?

Newsletter of the North Star Herding Group Club

Vol. VII Issue 2

February 2006

Eukanuba Invitational Event

Among the NSHGC members who attended the Eukanuba Show in Tampa, Florida, were Marty Wall and Barbara Stransky.

Marty called with a "brag" to say that her border collie, Boomer, Ch. Avatar Boomer of Bayshore, received an Award of Excellence. His sire, Merwin took BOB. She was thrilled.

Barbara Stransky took Polish Lowland Sheepdog, B'Rossa, who got a "second look" from the judge and another run down and back. He asked her age. This was significant as the top bitch was a 5x Best of Opposite winner. Next year will be B'Rossa's turn. B'Rossa is now ranked #10 PON from 21 last year.

Other NSHGC Handlers/dogs :

Member **Lisa Kleven** handled B'Rossa owned by member Barbara Stransky (Polish Lowland Sheepdog) and Rusty (Ch Lismore's Jest Ruff A Nuff) owned by members Patti, Lisa and Lori Kleven (Pembroke Welsh Corgi). Both of these dogs qualified as Top 25 dogs in their breed

Member **Reegan Wenninger** handled Alice (Ch Elfwynkle's Tailwind Debutante) Pembroke Welsh Corgi owned by members Vicky Peterson and Reegan Wenninger in the Junior Showmanship competition.

Member **Darci Wagner** handled Yogi (Ch Dakri's Park Ranger) Pembroke Welsh Corgi owned by members Darci and Chad Wagner in the Agility competition at Eukanuba and came home **3rd place overall** in the Cumulative Rankings for the 8" classes.

Members **Jim and Louanne Brooks** handled Zenith (Ch Hillhaven's Zenithal Blue) Australian Cattle Dog and Scooter (Ch Hillhaven's Miracle) Australian Cattle Dog

(both owned by the Brooks family).

Member **Amelia Brooks** handled Lily (Ch Hillhaven's Li'l Shenanigan) Australian Cattle Dog owned by members Jim, Louanne and Amelia Brooks in the Junior Showmanship competition.

All of these dogs and handlers and owners worked very hard this year to qualify for this prestigious event and all should be congratulated for their invitation to this event.

New Web design

If you have visited the nshgc.org website lately, you have noticed a new design. My goal is to develop a website that will promote our club and its members. I have a lot of creative ideas and would welcome yours. Among the things I have already added:

- NSHGC Store
- NSHGC Membership application
- Photo Gallery

If you have a favorite photo to share, send it to me so I can post it in the Photo Gallery. This is a great way to get to know each other.

In the future, there has been discussion of a breeders list and web listing for breeders. Watch the newsletter for more on this as the board develops a plan to implement it. If you have any suggestions to make or ideas, please contact Patti Kleven or myself

Mary J. McKennan, webmaster

Special points of interest:

- **Meeting Location Survey**
- *Cappy Pruet Stockdog Clinic*
- **Board Meeting 2/16 at 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location Survey

St. Paul Dog Training is expanding, and this **location may not be available**. Please return the meeting survey enclosed to help us find a place to meet.

Inside this issue:

<i>FSS Report</i>	2
<i>Catalogue Ad for June 2006</i>	2
<i>Member Brags</i>	3
NSHGC Officers, Board, and Contact Information	3
<i>Member Spotlight: What is FSS? By John Peterson</i>	4
<i>Rally Trial results</i>	4
<i>Obedience Trial results</i>	5
<i>General Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2006</i>	6
NEW! <i>Member Spotlight</i>	7
<i>Ads and Notices</i>	7

Membership application is now on line.

Member "Brag's"

I do have a brag, My Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Little John earns his "RN" title in our first three shows. Owner Kathy DuVall Am/Int'l/ United Ch Crown's Little John OFA/E RN, CGC and Registered Therapy Dog.

Since I have not put an obedience title on a dog since 1975, I am a little out of my comfort zone. It is fun, but I am extremely nervous. Our first show was St Paul Dog Training on Jan 5, 2006. We ran in the Novice B competition. There were about 45 dogs competing and we earned a 98 score. I was thrilled.

Our 2nd show was the Saturday of Land O Lakes Jan 7th. There were 63 dogs competing. I was also showing in conformation, on the first level. Obedience and agility on the 2nd level. I had a dog in the Group so there fore I had to run last. We did not get into the ring until 4:30pm. We received a score of 99.

Our 3rd show was the Sunday of Land O Lakes Jan 8th and there were 49 dogs in competition. We earned another 99. I was thrilled to have done so well each day. We were in the top 10 dogs each day.

Kathy DuVall and the crew

Yogi – CH Dakri's Park Ranger MX MXJ placed 5th at the AKC National Agility Championship earlier this month. We will be on Animal Planet airing Feb 12th.

Darci Wagner

I do have a couple of HUGE brags: Jan 19 we drove to Novi, MI for 6 UKC shows in 3 days. We showed our bitch AKC CH/ UKC CH Blackwater's Secret At Chargany in 5 UKC shows, which she won the CH class 4 times to get her Grand Champion title, she took BOB 3 times, 3 Group 1's & 2 BIS. We also showed AKC CH Blackwater's Urich At Chargany in the same shows & picked up 3 Best

Males & 95 points towards his UKC CH. We had a phenomenal weekend, one that I'm sure won't be repeated anytime too soon.

**Jan Powers
Chargany Belgians**

=====

Applause for
Karin Andreen
and the volunteers
for the Obedience and
Rally Obedience Trial
at Total Recall.

Great job!!

Thanks for all your
hard work!!

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North Star Herding Group Club Officers, Board, Contacts			
President	Patti Kleven	763-295-6206	lismorecor@aol.com
Vice-President	Steven Sorenson	715-834-9248	
Secretary	Mary McKennan	763-972-6734	mmckennan@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Mary Murphy	763-780-8333	Marmcmurph@aol.com
Board Members:			
	Linn Klingel	651-306-9091	Linnkling@aol.com
	Karl Johnson	320-743-5100	karloscarjohnson@msn.com
	Bev Capstick	763-295-6206	avagator@tds.net
	Jan Powers	651-459-5383	chargany@msn.com
	Darci Wagner	952-941-8736	cdwagner@mn.rr.com
<hr/>			
<u>FSS Breed Coordinator</u>	John Peterson	952-541-0187	john.g.peterson@att.net
<u>Agility Chair</u>	Darci Wagner	952-941-8736	cdwagner@mn.rr.com
<u>Herding Coordinator</u>	Karin Andreen	763-425-3236	ebonaire@hotmail.com

Member Spotlight

What is FSS?

FSS stands for Foundation Stock Services. It is AKC's breed registry for all the unusual (to this country) breeds.

A few years ago I successfully petitioned the AKC Board to allow those breeds with significant numbers and a National Breed Club to take part in Companion Dog and performance events. I think the final rules for the Companion dog events were 175 registered dogs, a National Club with members in 20 states and a breed standard. Permission to take part in performance events would be on a breed by breed basis. They were first eligible to take part in Companion Dog events commencing January 1, 2004 and my Pyr Shep, Luc, was the first Pry Shep to earn an AKC title when he earned his Novice Agility title at the Land O'Lakes shows. We qualified in 5 of 6 runs.

FSS Herding Breeds approved for Companion Dog events, Herding Tests and Exhibition only at Herding Trials now include the following: Norwegian Buhund, Swedish Vallhund (Now in the Miscellaneous classes), Pyrenean Shepherd, Icelandic Sheepdog.

FSS Herding Breeds not yet Qualified for Companion Dog events include the following: Finnish Lapphund, Belgian Laekenois, Bergamasco Sheepdog, Pumi, Mudi.

A Pumi and a Mudi each took a third place in one of the rounds of the FCI World Agility Championships last year.

John Peterson, FSS Breed Coordinator

From the Editor

I have only been a member of NSHGC for a year, but I know few of the other members of the club. I asked what I considered a dumb question, "What is FSS" and discovered just how incredible this club is in forging new pathways for our herding breeds. I suspect that there are many other equally inspiring members in NSHGC. For this reason, I would like to start a Spotlight on Members column to introduce the membership to each other and share their accomplishments. One of the things I find the most refreshing about this club is the genuine enthusiasm that is expressed for the accomplishments of other members. I believe this can be a springboard of inspiration, and I am anxious to learn more about what everyone else is doing. I would like to interview 2 members for each issue... Please contact me if you are interested in participating.

Mary McKennan, editor

NSHGC Rally Trial Sat, Jan 28, 2006 Hugo, MN

Judge: Sharon Hodgens-Wood

NOVICE A:

1st Place: 90 SU MORE BUDDY Australian Shepherd Owner: Danita Geske

NOVICE B:

1st Place: 100 RUFUS RED DANDY UD Belgian Malinois Owner: Catherine Taylor
2nd Place: 100 BLUE BANNERS LEGEND KEEPER CDX Shetl Shp Owr: Shelley Spoden
3rd Place: 100 KEN MAR SHAZAM CDX MX MXJ Belgian Malinois Owner: Anne Shankey
4th Place: 99 GEMS EARTH AND SKY PT OA OAJ Border Collie Owner: Annette A Frederick

ADVANCED A:

1st Place: 93 CH CROWN'S LITTLE JOHN Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Kathy DuVall

ADVANCED B:

1st Place: 99 CH MYKEY PRVAK DYMOND IN THE RUF VCD3 MX HSAs RN Border Collie Owner: Jacqueline Hoyer
2nd Place: 99 MY-KEY FAIRYTALE DANCER VCD1 HSAs HSAs CDX RN AX Border Collie Owner: Jacqueline Hoyer
3rd Place: 99 DAISYHILL'S NORTHERN ECHO MAGGIE UD RN AX MXJ Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Susan M Malicki
4th Place: 97 ANDRONAMA'S ROYAL RAN-SOM CDX Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Cindy LaCasse

EXCELLENT A:

1st Place: 76 WATERFALL'S CAFFEINE HIGH RN Aust Shep Owner: Sheina Fountaine

EXCELLENT B:

1st Place: 98 BLUE BANNERS WEEKEND HOBI UD RN Shet Shp Owner: Sarah Leonard
2nd Place: 98 BLUE BANNERS CODE OF HONOR UD RA Shetl Shp Owner: S Stulken
3rd Place: 98 TOBY BEAR OF FLORA NESS CDX RE OA OAJ Shetl Shp O: C Brandenburg
4th Place: 96 LUCIFER ANYA GIRARD CD RN German Shepherd Dog Owner: J Girard

NSHGC Rally Trial Sun, Jan 29, 2006 Hugo, MN

Judge: Sharon Ann Redmer

NOVICE B:

1st Place: 100 BLUE BANNERS LEG-END KEEPER CDX Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Shelley Spoden
2nd Place: 99 GEMS EARTH AND SKY PT OA OAJ Border Collie Owner: Annette A Frederick
3rd Place: 98 BLUE BANNERS LEGEND MATERIAL CD Shetland Sheepdog Owners: Sarah P Leonard & James Martin
4th Place: 98 BLUE BANNER DIMND IN THE RUFF CD Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Brittany Arndt

ADVANCED A:

1st Place: 95 CH CROWN'S LITTLE JOHN Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Kathy DuVall
2nd Place: 93 PHOEBE X Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Maria Kenny
3rd Place: 80 TORY RN Border Collie Owner: Joan P Kurlander

ADVANCED B:

1st Place: 99 KEN MAR SHAZAM CDX MX MXJ Belgian Malinois Owner: Anne Shankey
2nd Place: 98 ANDRONAMA'S MIDNIGHT SHADOW CDX Shetland Sheepdog Owners: Cindy & Stephanie LaCasse
3rd Place: 98 DAISYHILL'S NORTHERN ECHO MAGGIE UD RN AX MXJ Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Susan M Malicki
4th Place: 97 FOXFIRE BANNERS SPLIT IMAGE UD HT RN Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Sarah P Leonard

EXCELLENT B:

1st Place: 99 DAISYHILL'S NORTHERN ECHO MAGGIE UD RN AX MXJ Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Susan M Malicki
2nd Place: 96 ABBOTSFORD WYLIE MAC-TRICKIT UD RA Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Janet C Peterson
3rd Place: 96 BLUE BANNERS WEEKEND HOBI UD RN Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Sarah P Leonard
4th Place: 90 BLUE BANNERS CODE OF HONOR UD RA Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Shelli Stulken

Congratulations to all who participated!

North Star Herding Group Club Obedience Trial

Saturday, January 28, 2006, Hugo, Minnesota

Judge: Sharon Ann Redmer

NOVICE A:

1st Place: 193.5

ZEPHYR'S ADELAIDE PRINCESS German Shepherd Dog Owner: Melissa & Ann Halling

2nd Place: 186 MEADOW CREEK'S ECHO Collie (Rough) Owners: Julie Langner

3rd Place: 180 CH. WOODLANDS

HOTNSPICY NORTHLAND Australian Shepherd Owners: Brenda & Jeff Berkebile

NOVICE B:

1st Place: 197.5

CH WAGONS HO WHO'S THAT GIRL HSAs Border Collie Owner: Debra Provence

2nd Place: 196

FRESKO VON FAGING German Shepherd Dog Owner: Terry G. Berg

3rd Place: 195.5 MCT'S HUNTER CD German Shepherd Dog Owner: Ron & Ann Halling

4th Place: 187.5

MOONCREST LUCAS MCCAIN Australian Shepherd Owners: Kathy Sianko & Kelli Kupfer

OPEN B:

1st Place: 196.5

CH MYKEY PRVAK DYMOND IN THE RUF VCD3 MX HSAs RN Border Collie Owner: Jacqueline Hoye

2nd Place: 196 BLUE BANNERS CODE OF HONOR UD RA Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Shelli Stulken

3rd Place: 196 CH MY-KEY BE LIKE MIKE CD OA OAJ Border Collie Owners: Sue & Glen Kothe

4th Place: 195.5 GRETCHEN LIEBCHEN

SCHUMACK CDX HT PT RE German Shepherd Dog Owner: Paul Anthony Schumack

UTILITY B:

1st Place: 196

OTCH WIRLWYND FLYING WEDGE UDX9 HSAsd HSDs HIAs Border Collie Own: J Wilson

2nd Place: 195 OTCH JO'S XTRA HOBI O'HIMARK UDX7 RAE OA AXJ Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Joanne Johnson

3rd Place: 192 CH MYKEY PRVAK DYMOND IN THE RUF VCD3 MX HSDsRN Border Collie Owner: Jacqueline Hoye

4th Place: 192 OTCH DARLINS ROCKIN ROBIN UDX10 RN Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Patricia Nevins

HIGH IN TRIAL:

CH WAGONS HO WHO'S THAT GIRL HSAs, Debra Provence

HIGH COMBINED:

OTCH JO'S XTRA HOBI O'HIMARK UDX7 RAE OA AXJ, Joanne Johnson

HIGHEST SCORE DOG W/CHAMPIONSHIP:

CH WAGONS HO WHO'S THAT GIRL HSAs, Debra Provence

HIGHEST SCORE DOG W/ HERDING TITLE:

CH WAGONS HO WHO'S THAT GIRL HSAs, Debra Provence

HIGHEST SCORING BELGIAN SHEEPDOG:

CT BRIS ALLEGRO TDX VST OA OAJ HSAd

VETERANS:

1st Place:

RUFUS RED DANDY UD, Belgian Malinois Owner: Catherine Taylor

2nd Place:

BUSY B'S ITS A BOY CDX NX NXJ NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Deborah Johnson

BRACE:

1st Place: MACH3 L'ALLEGRO KNIGHT

SONG CDX Shetland Sheepdog LEGACY OF LOVE LST CDX MX MXJ Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Vion Kaye

2nd Place: CH FIRESIDES STARS N STRIPES

CDX HT German Shepherd Dog FORKAY TODORHAUS MY GIRL CDX PT German Shepherd Dog Owner: J Anderson & D Zahn

TEAM:

Judges:

Sharon Ann Redmer & Ross Gabriel

1st Place: QUAINTS LIBERTY MOON RISING CD NA NAJ NAP OJP Welsh Corgi (Cardigan) Owner: Lynn Stoltzmann

BUSY B'S IT'S A BOY CDX MX MXJ NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: D Johnson HIGH FLYING ESPRESSO Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: S Kath & J Zimmerman

HAYLEY BRYNN WADSWORTH CDX NAP NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Barbara I Stoffel

(alt) HIGH FLYING SAMMO VCD1 UD HT Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Jenny Zimmerman & Steve Kath

Sunday continued

BRACE:

1st Place: CH FIRESIDES STARS N STRIPES CDX HT German Shepherd Dog FORKAY TODORHAUS MY GIRL CDX PT German Shepherd Dog Owner: J Anderson & D Zahn

TEAM:

Judges: Sharon Ann Redmer & Ross Gabriel

1st Place: 771 BLUE BANNERS LEGEND KEEPER CDX Shtlnd Shpdg Owner: S Spoden BLUE BANNER DIMND IN THE RUFF CD Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Brittany Arndt BLUE BANNERS CODE OF HONOR UD RA Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Shelli Stulken BLUE BANNERS WEEKEND HOBI UD RN Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Sarah P Leonard (alt) FOXFIRE BANNERS SPLIT IMAGE UD HT RN Shetland Sheepdog Owner: S Leonard

2nd Place: 657 QUAINTS LIBERTY MOON RISING CD NA NAJ NAP OJP Welsh Corgi (Cardigan) Owner: Lynn Stoltzmann

BUSY B'S IT'S A BOY CDX MX MXJ NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: D Johnson HIGH FLYING ESPRESSO Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: S Kath & J Zimmerman HAYLEY BRYNN WADSWORTH CDX NAP NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: B Stoffel (alt) HIGH FLYING SAMMO VCD1 UD HT Welsh Corgi (Pemb) O: J Zimmerman/S Kath

NSHGC Obedience Trial

Sunday, January 29, 2006, Hugo, MN

Judge: Ross Gabriel

NOVICE A:

1st Place: 196.5 ZEPHYR'S ADELAIDE PRINCESS German Shepherd Dog Owner: Melissa & Ann Halling

2nd Place: 196 PRECIOUS GEM Collie (Rough)

Owner: Alexandra M Thompson

3rd Place: 178 CH. WOODLANDS HOTNSPICY

NORTHLAND Australian Shepherd

Owners: Brenda & Jeff Berkebile

NOVICE B:

1st Place: 197 MCT'S HUNTER CD German

Shepherd Dog Owner: Ron & Ann Halling

2nd Place: 196.5 CH WAGONS HO WHO'S

THAT GIRL HSAs Border Collie

Owner: Debra Provence

3rd Place: 190.5 MOONCREST LUCAS MCCAIN

Australian Shepherd

Owners: Kathy Sianko & Kelli Kupfer

4th Place: 182.5 B-LINES DARLING LIESL,

Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Barbara Stoffel

OPEN B:

1st Place: 197.5 OTCH WIRLWYND FLYING /

WEDGE UDX9 HSAsd HSBd HIAs Border Collie

Owner: Judy Wilson

2nd Place: 196 DARLIN'S DREAMIN OF

FASTER TIMES UDX Shetland Sheepdog

Owner: Mark Schindeldecker

3rd Place: 196 CH MY-KEY BE LIKE MIKE CD

OA OAJ Border Collie Owners: Sue & Glen

Kothe

4th Place: 195.5 OTCH JO'S XTRA HOBI O'HIMARK UDX7 RAE OA AXJ Shetland Sheepdog

Owner: Joanne Johnson

UTILITY A:

1st Place: 193 KEN MAR SHAZAM CDX

MX MXJ Belgian Malinois Owner: Anne

Shankey

UTILITY B:

1st Place: 197.5 OTCH WIRLWYND FLYING

WEDGE UDX9 HSAsd HSDs HIAs Border Collie

Owner: Judy Wilson

2nd Place: 194.5 OTCH JO'S XTRA HOBI O'HIMARK UDX7 RAE OA AXJ Shetland Sheepdog

Owner: Joanne Johnson

3rd Place: 194 BLUE BANNERS MIST O'BLUE

UD Shetland Sheepdog Ownr: Kay E McMahan

4th Place: 193 DARLIN'S DREAMIN OF FASTER

TIMES UDX Shetland Sheepdog Owner: Mark

Schindeldecker

HIGH IN TRIAL: OTCH WIRLWYND

FLYING WEDGE UDX9 HSAsd HSDs HIAs,

Judy Wilson

HIGH COMBINED: OTCH WIRLWYND

FLYING WEDGE UDX9 HSAsd HSDs HIAs,

Judy Wilson

HIGHEST SCORING DOG W/HERDING TITLE:

OTCH WIRLWYND FLYING WEDGE UDX9

HSAsd HSDs HIAs, Judy Wilson

VETERANS:

1st Place: BUSY B'S ITS A BOY CDX NX NXJ

NJP Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Owner: Deborah

Johnson

North Star Herding Group Club

Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting
January 19, 2006

The meeting was held in South Saint Paul, MN at the St Paul Dog Training Club location. The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by president, Beverly Capstick.

Reports-

Secretary's report- Minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. A motion was made and seconded and a vote was taken to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report- All of the bills for the January show have been paid. We have not yet received our check from Onofrio. The ending balance at the bank is \$4820.58

President's report- The January obedience and rally trial has 106 herding breed entries. There will be approx 6 hours of obedience judging and 4 hours of rally judging on January 28-29th.

Take the Lead has approached our club about becoming a member of their organization. Our club can join for a membership fee of \$100.00 per year. Individuals of the club can join for \$25.00 per year. We will wait till next month or so to vote on this membership for our club till we see how we did with the January show in terms of earnings.

Bev Capstick wanted to thank all the members of the club for their hard work these last 5 years. She also wanted to say thank you for the gold Doberman head for a necklace that some members presented to her at the January show.

Bev will be stepping down as president after this meeting and will become our 1st past president and a member of the board.

Membership committee-

New member 1st readings this month are listed below

Reegan and Rachel Wenninger (junior members)

1113 Selby Ave
St Paul Park, MN 55071
Pembroke Welsh Corgi

Brad, Barbara and Annie Zacho

1815 1st Ave.
Newport, MN 55055
Border Collie and Pembroke Welsh Corgi

Rory and Linda Friedlow

1680 Ladd Ave
Kanwha, IA 50447
Belgian Tervuren and Belgian Malinois

Judy Hagen

5125 Shady Island Road
Mound MN 55364
Belgian Tervuren and Belgian Malinois

Membership Committee continued

Karen Nielsen

4811 Colfax Ave N.
Minneapolis, MN 55430
Rescue and Puppy training

Old Business-

We need to fill some vacant positions on the board. Jacqy McKay has resigned from the board for personal reasons so Bev Capstick will fill her position. Ann McKay will be moving back to Michigan in a few weeks so she will be unable to take on the position of secretary. Our newsletter editor Mary McKennan will take on the duties of secretary. Deb Johnson will take over the position of advertising chairman for our June conformation show. More information on advertising for that show will be available in the next newsletter.

New Business:

The slate of officers for 2006 are as follows-

President- Patti Kleven
Vice President- Steve Sorenson
Secretary- Mary McKennan
Treasurer- Mary Murphy
Past President- Bev Capstick
Board Members Term (2006-2007)
Jan Powers, Darci Wagner
Board Members Term (2006-2008)
Karin Andreen, Deb Johnson,
Bev Capstick

A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of officers as a whole. A vote was taken and the officers were accepted into office

New president, Patti Kleven was present at the meeting and accepted the position of president. Ideas on improving attendance at meetings and ways to make the club more exciting to members were discussed. A survey was passed out to members present with ideas on moving the club meeting to a different location. A copy of the survey will appear in the newsletter. Please send the survey or e-mail Patti Kleven (lismorecor@aol.com) with any suggestions members have on the survey.

The June show will again be held with the Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club. Jim Brooks has agreed to be our grounds person and Sharon Danley has agreed to be our ring hospitality person

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Kleven, secretary

Member Spotlight

I have always been an animal lover. When I was 5 or 6 I had a wonderful farm set (complete with a manure remover) called "Happy Time Farm"...this fantasy farm specialized in cocker spaniels and collies. I told so many stories to my first grade friends about my family's escapades that my third grade teacher asked my mom about our farm weekends - she, of course, had no idea what dear Mrs. Meek was talking about. And although I read an occasional Nancy Drew, most of my spare time was spent pouring over dog breed books, collecting dog stuffed animals and finding new ways to manipulate my parents into acquiring me one. At seven, my lifelong companionship with dogs began with a toy poodle named Patrice.

I attempted to get into the show world in 1980, but my darling bitch developed an auto-immune disease of the central nervous system at four months and I lost my nerve. At that time I was performing full time as an actor and was never sure where I might land. Marriage and my son also filled my time (as well as Ralph the wonder mix and many kitties), but my dream of showing and breeding purebred dogs was always bubbling under the surface. When I began a stable teaching career and my son was older, I took the plunge again.

I searched diligently for a medium-sized herding breed and discovered the Polish Lowland Sheepdog. Luckily, Jerry and Barbara Stransky had a wonderful Pon and when I visited him, I was hooked. Pons were only showing in ARBA at the time, but those shows were a great way to start. Since my first Pon, "StarPons Promise Me Anything," I've done a fair amount of importing and although I have had to re-home some for hip issues, etc., I have hung in there and feel now that my partners and I (I co-own some of my Pons) have access to almost all the major lines and our stock is (knock on wood) very healthy.

This year, two Pondulac kids (Titus and B'Rossa) were invited to Eukanuba and B'Rossa attended and got a very serious look from the judge. My little Fergie, at 12 months, took breed at Gray's Lake last week and Hummer, my male, needs only a 3-Point major to finish.

Oh...yes...to complicate things, I also co-own a beautiful Irish Water Spaniel bitch. She got her first 4 point major at Land O' Lakes in January. While they are very different breeds, they all have wonderful furry/shaggy coats, so that must be the connection. I guess I ended with a kind of "Happy Time Farm" after all!

Shelley Potter www.Pondulac.com

Web Design Services

By Mary J. McKennan

Original artwork and graphics. Personalized and professional.
Affordable. mmckennan@earthlink.net

Wish list for the Land O'Lakes Show 2007:

- ⇒ We need Banners
- ⇒ Play the Star Spangled Banner
- ⇒ Tablecloths are donated by Bev Chapman

Next General Membership Meeting:

Thursday, February 16, 2006

7:30 p.m. at St. Paul Dog Training.

For map: www.nshgc.com/Calendar

Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Southview Restaurant, south end of mall. Former board members are invited to join us.

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

We're on the Web!
www.nshgc.org



Back Page Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.
