



Herd the News

Newsletter of North Star Herding Group Club



Volume 10
Issue 3

March 2009

Message from the President

"I myself have known some profoundly thoughtful dogs."

James Thurber

CHA-CHA-CHA CHANGES!!! Take note, everyone! The monthly club Membership Meeting time has been moved up to 7:00 pm, instead of 7:30. The location is the same (Perkins, Shoreview), and when scheduled, Board Meetings will still be 1/2 hour before the Membership Meeting.

We have also made some changes to the newsletter. Jean Runge, our Editor, has done a fantastic job this past year. She has made sure the newsletter goes out on time and is packed with information. We are changing the newsletter deadline to the 3rd of the month following the regular monthly meeting, with the newsletter released on the 6th of the month. The previous deadline (25th of the month of the regular monthly meeting) conflicted with the Obedience/Rally trial, the Agility trial, the August Specialty, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We hope this new deadline will foster more brags and event recaps in the newsletter. Jean is starting a full time job in April, and will not have as much time to devote to the newsletter as she has in the past, so let's all pitch in to keep the newsletter interesting and informative. Send your information to Jean and let us all share in your successes!

Almost half of our members are getting their "Herd the News" newsletter by snail mail: the rest have signed up for email. AKC requires clubs mail newsletters, unless each member signs a form saying they will accept their newsletter by email. We want to encourage you to sign up for email delivery, as it costs around a dollar a month to mail a copy of the newsletter. We are no longer going to print the newsletter in color. The email version will come in color over email, and will be available in color (along with back copies) at www.NSHGC.org.

If you are interested in serving on a committee of the club, please contact a board member or myself, or attend a meeting and let us know. We have a great bunch of folks who devote a lot of time and effort to keep this club vital and active! We'd love to have you join the fun! We are looking for help particularly with Trophy Committee work.

Sharon Anderson will be a guest educational speaker at the March meeting. She will be talking about the exciting AKC World Agility Trial, where herding dogs RULE!. Hope you can make it.

Welcome new members Patricia and Rachael Watts, and Paula Pennington. And, speaking of membership, our by-laws state that renewals must be received by April 1 of each year. A renewal form is here in the newsletter, so if you haven't paid your dues and renewed for 2009, take a moment to do so. Those who haven't renewed by April 1 will be dropped from the membership roster.

Louanne Brooks
President

Special points of interest:

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Newsletter deadline:
12 pm = 3rd of each
month

Any articles, messages, brags up coming events, and so on sent to newsletter editor after the closing date, of the 3rd of each month -12PM, will not be included until the following month.

NO exceptions.....

March 2006
Advertising rates will apply to all notices
Published in the newsletter, excluding
"Member Brags" section.

Newsletter Ad Rates:

- Club Members:
- Full page = \$25.00
- 1/2 page = \$15.00
- 1/4 page = \$10.00
- Want ad = \$5.00
- Want ad = 1/8 page.
- Full page is one side only.
- **Non members add \$5.00

Newsletter Editor
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Dunnell MN 56127

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3321 Columbus Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Membership Secretary
Patty Kleven
8619 Jenner Lane
Cottage Grove MN 55016

★★ NSHGC ANNOUNCEMENTS ★★

The membership renewals are now past due .

NSHGC constitution and by-laws state that any membership dues must be within 60 days of the beginning of our fiscal year (Feb 1) or their membership will be considered lapsed. Memberships not paid by April 1, 2009 will lapses. NSHGC constitution also allows for late membership renewals in special circumstances. After that point you will have to re-apply for membership. See page 6

**Donations for Trophies for our "On the Farm" August 2009 Show,
Any one interested in Donating
please contact Kathy DuVall
marienterprises@hotmail.com**

Club members who would like the opportunity to donate an item for classes (WD WB 1st 2nd 3rd 4th ect.)
You will supply the item to be used as a trophy for the classes.

Contact Kathy Duvall = marienterprises@hotmail.com See page

Club Information

NSHGC Officers, Board, Contacts

President	Louanne Brooks	1-651-345-3749	hillhaven1@earthlink.net
Vice President	Anne MacKay	952-472-1257	ann@avonleamalinois.com
Reporting Secretary-	Dawn Fisher	612-824-7738	kazinsmom@yahoo.com
Membership Secretary	Patti Kleven	651-458-0814	lismorecor@aol.com
Treasurer	John Petersen	952-541-0187	john.g.peterson@att.net
2008-2010	Karin Andreen	763-425-3236	Ebonaire@hotmail.com
	Barbara Stransky	651-436-8502	Stransky@Q.com
Board Position (past president)	Patti Kleven	651-458-0814	lismorecor@aol.com
2009-2011 Board	Bev Capstick	763-295-6206	avagator@tds.net
	Barb Zusan	651- 430-9156	Barbzusan@yahoo.com
	Lynette Gangl	651-357-3738	lgandl@wandrlyn.com

2009 Committees:

FSS Breed Coordinator	John Peterson	952-541-0187	john.g.peterson@att.net
Agility Coordinator	Darci Wagner	952-941-8736	cdwagner@mn.rr.com
Obedience Coordinator	Karin Andreen	763-425-3236	ebonaire@hotmail.com
Herding Coordinator	Lynn Gandl	651-357-3738	lgandl@wandrlyn.com
Ring Hospitality Coord.	Andrea Debbins	612-781-6130	adebbins@yahoo.com
Educational Coordinator	Linn Klingel	651-306-9091	linnkling@aol.com
Judges Selection Coord.	Steve Sorenson	715-834-9248	
Show Chair – January 2009	Anne MacKay	952-472-1257	ann@avonleamalinois.com
Show Chair - August 2009	Steve Sorenson	715-834-9248	
Historian	Sharon Danley	651) 426-9688	cassaday315@aol.com
Newsletter Editor - Web site	Jean Runge	507-695-2334	quaintkid@yourstarnet.net

Membership Meeting
Thursday, February 19, 2009
Perkins Restaurant Shoreview

Meeting called to order at 7:40

President's Report Trophy Hospitality and Education committees need new members, Special board meeting approved a \$50 gift card to Soccer Blast Manager and \$1000 payment to supers Karl and Betty Johnson for the last agility trial.

Secretary's Report No changes requested to last minutes- Deb Johnson made motion to accept, Chris Mosley 2nd, group voted to accept

Treasurer's Report see attached. Also, John is working with the bank to update our signature card for the checking account.

Agility Committee see attached ***

Herding Committee Lynnette Gandl is working to get a match set up, has some potential dates and a potential judge lined up. Looking to confirm location and dates in the near future. To be limited entry. Group discussed possible dates as well as difficulty working around other dog events locally. Suggested that while we may not be able to work around all events, we may want to consider membership availability in relation to other events occurring.

Obedience Committee Had many positive accolades from the January trial. We will be looking at various issues for our next trial. We did not fill the rally portion, so are looking at making that smaller next year and increasing the obedience entry. We are also going to request/acknowledge any special awards should members like to offer them.

Conformation Committee Nothing new to report – Steve is chair for August show and was not present
Junior Showmanship Committee Patti Kleven passed around a thank you from one of our members who attended Westminster. Juniors auction took in over \$200 from the holiday event.

Membership Committee 1st reading Maureen Behrens of Hastings, has PWC interested in match and show and performance events. Sponsored by Patti Kleven and Barb Zusan.

2nd reading Patricia and Rachel Anstett- Collies, Amy Ross- Collies, Paula Pennington Watts – PWC all voted in

Patti reminded everyone that memberships that have not reenrolled by April 1st will need to be removed from the mailing list. She also suggested that a reminder go out in the newsletter.

Trophy/Awards Committee Kathy Duvall passed around the trophy sponsorship list. List must be in by March 1st. A suggestion was made to have a general fund for covering unsponsored trophies. Suggestion was made that perhaps profits from an event such as an instinct test could be earmarked for that.

Education Committee None

Hospitality Committee None

FSS Report None

Old Business

Meeting location/time changes- John researched the board members location to determine a possible central location. Found that there are members coming from all over. No one has made any suggestions for other possible locations other than continuing to have some summer meetings in other places. Patti Kleven made a motion to have our June and July meetings at the park in White Bear with a potluck dinner, and to have our August meeting the evening before the Specialty show at the fairgrounds. Barb Zusan seconded. Motion passed
Barbara Zusan made a motion to move future meeting times to 7 pm, Lynnette Gandl 2nd. Motion passed

New Business

Adding to web site: rescue: FSS breeds – FSS breeds have already been added. The group discussed having rescue contacts available on the website. Dawn Fisher made motion to list members with rescue contacts as requested on the website with a further notice to refer to the breed clubs for any unlisted breed. Patti Kleven 2nd, motion passed.
Newsletter changes- the board discussed possible changes with the newsletter during the board meeting. As most of our events tended to conflict with the current deadline, the board will be asking the newsletter editor to change the submission date to the 3rd of the month with the newsletter released by the 6th.

Chris Mosley questioned whether the club has an excess of event numbers with AKC available. Louanne indicated she would check.

Meeting adjourned at 9.15

*** Agility trial committee report February 2009

Committee nearly set: Chair--Chris Mosley, Secretary (Prof.)-Jan Richards

contract signed, premium completed

Workers Darci Wagner & Maria Kenny, Awards and Score table Karl & Betty Johnson, Worker Raffle Carol Papermaste

Judges' Attache- Kathryn Ananda-Owens

Food TBD

Each trial committee member will receive a free entry for one dog at the trial

Other:

The trial application is now listed as "Approved" on the AKC site; The premium is on its way to AKC for approval now
We decided to add the F.A.S.T class on Friday and Saturday (Friday being Excellent only and not expected to have a large entry for that class, but a good offering for the Excellent group)

Equipment rental has once again been arranged through the MAC club \$150 per day including timers

Facility has been rented, judges hired etc. so all in all: we are on track for another successful trial

Treasurer report

January, 2009

Opening Balance at Bank		#####
January Deposits	\$4,097.90	
January Checks cleared	#####	
Old check cleared (06/30/08)	\$ (52.00)	
Closing Balance at Bank		#####

Less:

January Deposits not credited	\$2,635.04	
January Checks not cleared	\$ (760.75)	
Balance (pre-2009 checks not accounted for)		#####

Closing Balances at Bank		
January 31, 2008		#####
January 30, 2009		#####
Change		<u>\$6,020.69</u>

Respectfully Submitted,
John G. Peterson
Treasurer
North Star Herding Group Club, Inc.

Board Meeting

Thursday February 19, 2008

Perkins Restaurant, Shoreview MN

New Business

Newsletter - Jean took over the newsletter last year, She has been doing a good job, but we have a few issues. Some members have requested to receive these a bit closer to the meeting, as a reminder. We have an issue with deadlines as many of our events fall at the same time as the current deadline so there is no opportunity to get recaps filed. There was also an issue with her printer. In discussion with Louanne, it was determined that having this printed in black and white at a printer would only cost the club slightly more than refilling printer cartridges. Group discussed suggesting that newsletter be kept down to a smaller size to save mailing costs where possible.

Lynette Gandl made a motion to print in black and white by a commercial printer , Barb Zusan 2nd. Carried
Dawn Fisher made a motion to reimburse Jean \$250. toward her printer, Patti 2nd, Carried
Patti Kleven made a motion to have the closing date for submissions to the newsletter be midnight on the 3rd day of the month, allowing a few days for creation and any possible conflicts and publishing by the 6th of the month. Ann Mackay 2nd Carried

Treasurer Report John presented a couple of report formats and requested we determine what we would like to see. A longer more detailed version and a shorter crisp version. He is also preparing a statement of comparison form the prior yeat, as well as event reports.

Dawn made a motion to accept the shorter version of the treasurers report for the membership meeting and the newsletter. Karin Andreen 2nd Carried

Additional Discussions

The group also had some additional discussion about supporting the AKC World Agility Team with a donation. Possibly up to suggesting that the club cover the costs of the try out location rental, as there is talk of moving this away from Minnesota. Sharon is coming next month to speak, but several of the board members were concerned as to what benefit to the club this would be. Group agreed to re-address after she comes to speak. Adjourned 7:42



NEWS from AKC

The Board approved the recommendation of the Group Realignment Committee. An amendment to the rules to provide for Ten Groups will be read at the June 2009 Delegate Meeting for a vote in September 2009, with a proposed 2012 effective date.



E-MAIL NOTIFICATION AGREEMENT for the NSHGC Newsletter

Effective date: _____

I agree to receive the North Star Herding Group Club newsletter; "Herd the News", which contains notification of important club information and other club activities by e-mail.

- I understand that this is the only means by which I will receive the clubs newsletter, "HERD THE NEWS".
- I will contact The Newsletter Editor with any changes to my email address.

I understand that I may revoke this agreement at any time by notifying the Newsletter editor, in writing, and will receive the NSHGC Newsletter information by regular USPS mail.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____ date _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:Nshgc Newsletter Editor P O Box 205, Dunnell, MN 56127
Or email to Quaintkid@yourstarnet.net**

[This will cut down on the cost of postage for doing the newsletter.](#)

NORTH STAR HERDING GROUP CLUB Membership Renewal 2009

Membership renewal will not be accepted with incomplete information. Dues for the year must accompany the application. Applicants under 18 years of age must have parent's signature on application.

(Dues must be paid by April 1 2009 to keep membership active)

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

Breed(s) owned: _____

Check all areas that apply: (AKC events in the past 2 years)

- Breeder: Indicate the number of litters whelped within the past 3 (three) years: _____
 Exhibitor: Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Other: _____
 Judge: Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Other: _____
 Instructor: Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Other: _____
 Interested dog owner

Areas of interest or committees on which you would like to serve:

- Educational Programs Performance Events Breed Referral Match/Show Organization
 Community Service Publicity Fund Raising Activities
 Trophies & Awards Hospitality Social Events
 Others: _____

Please contact me, I would like to volunteer for the following:

- NSHGC Specialty January 2, 2009. LOLKC January 3-4 Tours
 LOLKC January 3-4 Ring Hospitality

Note: Parking pass will be provided for volunteers at the January 4-6 event upon approval.

- NSHGC Rally/Obedience Trial January 24 2009 January 25, 2009

- SCVVC August 2009 at Lake Elmo Steward Trophies Help wherever I am needed

Do you have any special skills or talents that may be of benefit to the club? (photographer, artist, writer, computer skills, etc.) If so, please list: _____

I / we, the above-named, do hereby apply for membership in the North Star Herding Group Club (NSHGC) and have enclosed dues for the year _____.

I / we agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the NSHGC and the American Kennel Club.

Dues: Individual \$15.00, Family \$25.00, Junior \$5.00, Associate (non-voting) \$10.00

I would like to make a donation to NSHGC Junior Program. Scholarship \$_____ Stipend \$_____

I wish to receive my newsletter by e-mail to the e-address listed above.

(You will not receive a paper copy of the newsletter if you make this selection)

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Sign and submit to the address below with membership dues. Do not mail cash. *Total Enclosed:* \$_____

Submit completed application and dues to:
Patti Kleven, Members Sec.
8619 Jenner Lane, Cottage Grove, MN 55016
Additional comments or questions see back of this form.

**Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club
AKC Sanctioned "B"**

Match

Bring your puppies and dogs and practice for the upcoming spring and summer shows! Get ready to do some winning. Classes start at 3 months and up.

6 p.m. Friday March 13

Leader of the Pack Training center

2534 Eastwood Ave. Buffalo MN

(located 5 miles west of Rockford just off of highway 55.)

The Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club invites everyone to join us for an evening of fun, training and socializing with a pot luck meal and a club meeting following the match.

\For more info call 763-479-1733



The Heartland Standard Schnauzer Club of the Greater Twin Cities is holding an AKC Santioned B All-Breed Obedience Fun Match on Sunday, March 15th, 2009.

What: AKC Santioned B All-Breed Obedience Fun Match

When: Sunday, March 15th starting at 9am with pre-Novice

Where: C& E Dog Training Center at 3965 Quebec Ave N in New Hope

How Much: \$8 for first entry, \$5 additional entry of same dog

Contact: CJ Ronyak, Match Secretary; 763-572-0808 or email CImom2@aol.com

Sponsor: Heartland Standard Schnauzer Club of the Greater Twin Cities,

www.heartlandstandardschnauzer.org



http://www.thedogplace.org/Articles/Breeder/0901-Preferred-Type_Gamill.htm

PREFERRED BREED TYPE

Why The Stand-Out Best Dog Can Be A Loser

- E. K. (Katie) Gamill

TheDogPress / 01|05|09. The Best of the Best or one that looks like the rest? Let's be honest. Something called "preferred type" is flooding the rings today and in many breeds, it has little to do with the Breed Standard. When "current type" does not equal correctness, the best dog can lose because in many rings, the fatal flaw is being a stand-out.

"The best dog you'll ever breed may be the hardest dog you ever finish!"

A dog show friend, absent from the sport for several years, attended some local shows with me. Welcoming the opportunity to view dogs in general after her sabbatical, she became visually distressed. Her despair increased when a "less than average" class dog received BOB. The waning quality in her beautiful breed breaks her heart. She stated it would be wasted effort to show a dog correct to the standard today, as some judges feel compelled to award dogs conforming to the majority of the entries.

Observing other breeds, she remarks on the lack of neck, restricted front movement and the lack of rear follow through; we discuss "gay tails" and breed type variances. We watch faulty movement and see coats dragging the ground. Weak pasterns and sickle hocks complete the picture. She wonders what causes this to happen to functional dogs in such a short time. It seems the correct dogs have fallen victim to what one may refer to as the "Perfection of Mediocrity".

Today, many breeders and owners turn to performance, choosing not to participate in a "crap shoot" where such variety in type confuses both judges and ringside. I make this statement at the expense of being tarred and feathered but increasingly, the best dog you'll ever breed may be the hardest dog you will ever finish. It

will be the “odd man out” and look different from the majority of dogs represented in the ring. Why? Some judges, insecure in a breed and therefore lacking courage, choose to walk “different” dogs rather than stick their neck out. Understandable, but should those lacking confidence be passing judgment on another’s dog?

My old mentor said, “The pendulum of type swings to and fro, but those remaining true to the standard triumph in the end.” Those dedicated breeders have the knowledge to restore a breed to its initial form once it hits bottom.

Should a judge reward a dog to suggest it could possibly assist in correcting breed faults? NO! It is a breeder’s responsibility to incorporate such animals into their programs, regardless of success in the show ring. Judges are to judge to the written standard to the best of their ability, fairly and efficiently. They avoid awarding “drags of a breed” when possible but judges have little insight into the Pandora’s Box of breeding.

A respected dog person of long standing approached me with this statement while at a seminar. “A judge CAN NOT GO WRONG by putting up winners conforming to the majority of the type of dogs in the ring on a given day.” My response was “Surely not!” Well, I believe it now! After observing an all breed judge from ringside, I watched two outstanding individuals “walk” because they looked different from the rest of the short neck, sickle hock, smaller than average dogs lacking side gait that toddled around the ring like fuzzy little caricatures of the breed.

This strange “look alike” perspective takes over in many breed rings and not just among judges. Asking a breeder what their standard said about head planes, the response was: “What are parallel planes?” We discussed the occipital bone, short and medium muzzles, balanced heads, etc. Reading a standard and applying it can be two different things.

Judges should have the ability to articulate why one dog wins over another. So is that why they make terminology common among standards - to make it easier for judges? If anyone can describe a bulldog and an afghan using the same language, please step forward. Removing the “point system” from the old standards has had a negative affect. In a final decision between two comparable individuals, one has an idea where to hang their hat regarding prioritizing.

Should we just BREED TO WIN or should we BREED TO THE STANDARD and expect judges to judge to the Standard?

It is a "Judas Kiss" to any breed when a judge puts up a dog simply because it looks like the majority in the ring. It encourages people to breed to “winners” rather than to a breed standard. In judge’s education, they address soundness but type takes priority. Educators assume that new applicants understand structure and corresponding movement. Type without soundness is as detrimental to a breed as soundness without type. A bad front and bad rear working in sequence produces “balance”. Do two wrongs make a right? The goal is “a balance between type and soundness”. A breed must be able to walk to the water bowl without falling over its own feet!

This brings us to the next question. Are not judges “protectors of the breed standards?” Judges education is NOT at fault. Perhaps the problem is what some judging applicants do NOT bring to the table! It is a privilege to pass judgment on a breed but one has the responsibility of understanding “Basic Dog 101”. The AKC’s required anatomy test neither assures someone’s knowledge nor is it any guarantee a judge has the ability to analyze structure and movement.

Some breeder judges today send dogs with a handler giving little thought as to their quality or future effect on a breed. Shouldn’t breeder judges be especially careful to send correct dogs for public observation? Breeders have a responsibility to put out “the best of the best” rather than a dog that wins simply because it “looks like the rest.” By so doing, they are sending false signals to both ringside and new judges.

When judges say, “This must be what the breeders want as the ring is flooded with this type” it is detrimental to any breed. It IS NOT about “what breeders want.” Breeders and judges have a responsibility to breed and judge to standard.

Should handlers show dogs for clients when they KNOW the dog or bitch is not a good representative of the breed? Breeders and exhibitors have a responsibility to promote only dogs that DO represent their breed standard and to sell as pets those who do not! A good handler should make every effort to finish a dog but they too are responsible and should be more selective regarding client dogs. Handlers who read the standard and who have the courage to turn down an inferior dog are to be admired.

Advertisement does not always mean a dog represents “breed excellence”. Handlers do not always present “good dogs”. Advertising carries some influence and if a judge selects winners on advertising alone, they do a disservice to the breed and it reflects on their ability as a judge.

“Priority judging” can be detrimental to breeds as Judges become caught up in selecting for individual virtues be it eye, ear set, feet, or coat color. That is why some specialty judges “put up pieces” rather than the whole package. Virtues are important, but a dog should “fill the eye”. A single virtue cannot take precedence over a plethora of faults! Priority

judging explains why many judges take so long to judge a class.

Dismayed exhibitors approach me with serious concerns regarding the direction of our sport. Time and effort is required to understand what makes a breed “breed specific”, and what constitutes “breed excellence”. There is no short cut. Everyone is entitled to his/her opinion. However, it should be a knowledgeable opinion. Personal preference only enters in when two dogs are equal according to the breed standard.

Another issue is “spot entering”. Granted, today people enter under specific judges where they feel there is a chance of winning. However, why on a four-day weekend, do we see one point on Thursday, a major on Friday, one point on Saturday, and a major on Sunday? Should not one support the person who supports them by entering all four days? If there is a major, don’t break it by not attending. Don’t bump up a bitch or dog to BOB without first asking the other exhibitors their preference. Many people drive miles only to find someone failed to show up ringside or” bumped up” a new champion and broke the major. This co-operation is something we used to be able to count on. Today it is “iffy” at best. This is “sportsmanship”!

Watch dogs go around the ring. Some are structurally inefficient. Some shoulders do not open up, the dog reaches from the elbow. Ask yourself why one dog out-moves another. Go analyze short coated dogs. Take this knowledge to your own breed ring and “look beneath the coat”. Understand top lines, body shape, breed specific movement and toy/moderate/giant. Do some study and then some soul searching. Ringside observers and breed enthusiasts look on in dismay today, wondering where the functional dogs of the past have gone. Sadly, some faults are so prevalent today they are viewed as “virtues”.

"Winning because of an exceptional breeding program takes the breed and breeders toward breed excellence. That should be the goal yesterday, and today."

Requested to address this issue, I decided to take time to sit back and see the “big picture.” The “big picture” is upon us, folks, and it is not pretty! My reason to become a judge was the challenge to select the best of the best according to a written standard. I love dogs! I love SOUND dogs with BREED TYPE! Both virtues, believe it or not, can be present in the same animal! Through combined efforts and a willingness to call “a spade a spade”, our breeds WILL survive. Breeding for the sake of winning is a downhill slide. This alone assures the future of our breeds. Turning things around will take dedicated breeders and judges, critical handler selection, and educated exhibitors. Our sport deserves nothing less than the best of our intentions.

ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS.

1. Why do breeder judges “put dogs with handlers when they know the animal does not represent breed excellence?
2. Why do handlers accept such dogs knowing once they finish, they will be “petted out”?
3. Are you kennel blind and do you breed to standard?
4. Should breeders and newcomers read the standard prior to stud and bitch selection?
5. When will more mentors open up to newcomers?
6. And lastly, are “gas money” and “filler” dogs destroying our sport?

Putting a breed back on track requires **ETHICAL HANDLERS, DEDICATED BREEDERS, AN UNDERSTANDING OF BREED STANDARDS and KNOWLEDGEABLE JUDGES WITH THE COURAGE TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE SELECTIONS.** Being a judge is not for the faint of heart. Sending the best dog to the next level and being a part of its journey to the pinnacle of success is a thrill of a lifetime.

There is but ONE standard. “Preferred breed type” is like a flavor of the month, very fleeting! BREEDERS, JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THEIR BREED STANDARDS. CURRENT FADS AND PERSONAL OPINIONS ARE FLEETING AND DESTRUCTIVE.

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