The Lundehund Link

Newsletter of the Norwegian Lundehund Association of America, Inc.

April 2008



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All Aboard for the National Specialty!

By Kristina Leach

Beginning in July, our beloved Lundehunds can be shown in the AKC Miscellaneous Class and to highlight this milestone, our National Specialty is going to take place July 11th in Eagle, Colorado. We have partnered with the Roaring Fork Kennel Club (RFKC) of Eagle to host our Specialty. In addition to our show, the Lundehunds will be eligible to enter the RFKC Miscellaneous shows on Saturday, July 12th, and Sunday, July 13th. This gives everyone the opportunity to show their dogs 3 times that weekend! The RFKC has been very gracious and they are very excited to have us there.

If you would like to volunteer any of your time or skills toward the show please let me know. We will need help in many areas including our information booth. The RFKC is going to set us up front and center at both of the shows. We are going to do a rotation of people and pups so that no one will be stuck at the booth all day.

There are many details to follow. Please watch for e-mails and snail mail from the club. You can contact me at schtien@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to help. You

may also refer to www.nlaainc.com for continuing updates (under the heading SHOWS and then in the SPECIALTIES heading).

Get Ready, Get Set, Show!

By Pete Rousseau, NLAA President

The time is near... a milestone has been reached... Norwegian Lundehunds will be entering AKC shows across the country beginning on July 01, 2008!

Many exhibitors new to AKC are unprepared for the expected level of presentation. While the following can be considered "unwritten rules" for AKC conformation shows, you can be assured they exist.

Show ring attire. Simply put, showing in AKC is about the presentation and exhibitors are expected to dress accordingly. Men and women should expect to wear business attire. This is the opportunity to showcase your breed and clothes should complement, not distract.

Show leads. Invest in a <u>quality</u> show lead! Nothing says 'pet' instead of 'show dog' than entering a show ring with a jogging flex-a-leash. Try to visit a local show and check out some of the vendors... you'll be amazed at the selection available. One brand I've used in the past and have been very happy with is Resco (*Google*

search "Resco show lead" for examples). The trick... plain & simple is best! Avoid the leads with multiple colors, jewelry, etc. You want the judge to look at your dog, not the leash. Try to color match the lead to the dog so the lead is nearly invisible. Cream or beige leads blend nicely with the Lundehund coloring.

"Do unto others..." Having multiple dogs enter a show ring can be a chaotic experience. Unwritten rule #1 of courtesy is 'do not crowd the exhibitor in front of you'. In other words, when you're lining up, give yourself at least an arm's length between you & your dog and the exhibitor in front of you. This gives both of you room to display your dog properly *AND* gives you a little wiggle room, in case the team behind you is not being as courteous.

Actions intended to distract. If you look at some of the rings closely, you'll begin to see the subtle things some handlers do to distract other teams. Two of the most common are throwing of bait & loudly squeaking toys. Be prepared to redirect the attention of your dog.

Professional handlers. AKC allows the use of professional handlers (*i.e. someone paid to take & display your dog at a show*). Just like the rest of society, you'll find the good & the bad. The only tip I can provide is... don't expect a professional to stick around & chat. They usually are showing multiple breeds at the same show and, as soon as they are done in one ring, they're off to prep for the next.

Complaints. While we'd like to live in a utopian world, nothing is ever perfect. If you have to lodge a complaint, your first stop should always be with the Show Superintendent. Depending on the layout of the venue, you will usually find the Superintendent table in 1 of 2 places: in a corner adjacent to the main entrance; or smack in the middle. Either way, their area will be clearly marked.

WOW! This sure looks like a lot of information to worry about. Please don't let it scare you

away. AKC looks at the Miscellaneous class as a probationary period. They are looking to see the breed and evaluate how the breed fancy adjusts to its new status. Enter the shows, learn from them and have some fun. Miscellaneous Class is a huge step towards full recognition and we need to be out there showing off this wonderful breed.

While AKC Championship titles are not available in Miscellaneous Class, it's critical that we show our dogs as a way of teaching judges. This way, when we are fully recognized, the judges will have been trained to properly evaluate our breed. If a judge has never seen a Lundehund before, how can they understand how special this breed is when we enter the Non-Sporting Group?

I personally challenge this membership to fully utilize this opportunity! The more dogs out there showing in Miscellaneous Class, the sooner we receive full recognition.



"Protect your family, protect your yard, and stop obsessing about port security."

Meet your Board of Directors

The NLAA is lucky to have an outstanding board of directors. Let's meet them:

President Pete Rousseau calls Colorado "home", but currently lives in Waldmohr, Germany. He retired after 20 years in the Air Force as a communications-computer technician and now oversees computer network systems affecting U.S. Air Force bases in Europe for Northrop Grumman. Tracy was introduced to

the Lundehund breed at a show in Colorado while he was in Belgium working for NATO. After he returned to CO, they obtained their first Lundie.

They currently have one Lundehund and are in negotiations to buy one—or maybe two—from breeders in Scandinavia. In 2006 they established Sakari Kennels, breeding both Lundehunds and Italian Greyhounds. They've shown their dogs all over Europe.

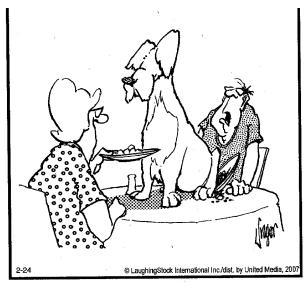
First vice-president Sharon Pederson, a former ballerina, is half of Cliffhanger Kennel in Tomales, northern California. Sharon is also the AKC liaison for NLAA and has been a prime mover in getting AKC recognition for our breed. The other half of Cliffhanger is Frank Bays, second vice president and also a former dancer.

After becoming "thoroughly besotted" with the breed via the internet, Frank and Sharon acquired their first four Lundehunds in February of 1997. Then they set out to Norway to meet breeders from the mother country and to see as many Lundehunds as possible.

Now, eleven years and many trips to Norway later, they have fourteen Lundehunds. In the past they've shown their dogs and garnered many championships, but recently their focus has been on AKC recognition. They look forward to competing in the AKC Miscellaneous Class this July.

Club secretary, Dr. Susan Torgerson-Taylor is a small animal veterinarian from Mukilteo, Washington, and organizer of the annual Northwest Lundiefest. She discovered Lundies in a dog atlas around 1974, saved the picture for years, and got her first Lundehund pup in 1993.

She breeds under the kennel name of Midnattsol Kennels and has had three champions. She currently has four Lundies. Susan skated for 20 years on a nationally-competitive synchronized ice skating team and, like her 12-year-old son, loves multi-player on-line computer games.



"He may as well have mine now."

Treasurer Terry Tetzlaff of Battleground, Washington, is retired most of the year, but he works for three months a year during the Christmas season as a regional area supervisor for Hickory Farms. He has owned his Lundehund "Ahlee" for nearly six years. Terry says, "she's not a show quality dog but she is certainly a champion to me!"

Terry continues, "I really enjoy being a member of NLAA and going to the Specialty Shows. I have met and made so many friends across the country. Ahlee has some health issues and many of them have been very caring and helpful with suggestions."

Judy Sanderson, of Syracuse, NY, is the **Eastern Region director**. Through Paul Ross, they got their first Lundehund from Norway in 1988. "Paul was moving to England and said if we wanted a Lundehund club we would have to do it ourselves. So Harv did. He was membership, registry, newsletter person, publicity and promotion. And so it began. "That was the start of the first Lundehund club in the U.S.

Sandersons did a lot of successful showing at ARBA events, including one Best in Show. They currently have four Lundies which they will be showing now that they have retired from

the RE/Max real estate franchise they ran for many years.

Judy and Harv started Norstar Lundehunds 20 years ago and also breed Caballero Labradors. "Labs and Lundies get along very well. The Labs get a little pushy, the Lundie grabs a Lab lip and the Lab says 'OK, Boss!""

Central Region director is Letty Afong, a real estate broker in Biloxi, Mississippi. Letty describes herself as "the new kid on the block" when it comes to Lundehunds, but she's been breeding dogs for years, starting with Standard Poodles in 1960 and later West Highland Terriers and Portuguese Water Dogs. She has finished approximately 125 champions under the "Neocles" kennel name.

Letty first got to know Lundehunds three years ago when she attended the Non-Sporting Group Judges Education at Louisville and listened to Sharon Pederson's presentation. She got her first Lundie two years ago and co-owns all three puppies from Flora's first litter.

Kristina Leach, **Mountain Region director**, lives in Avon, Colorado, with her husband Jason, the immediate past president of NLAA. A part-time nanny, she also works at a ranch which functions as an entertainment venue for parties and special events.

Kristina was introduced to the Norwegian Lundehund breed by Jason and they have been the proud owners of "Tuffy" since October 2002. They have shown Tuffy at the NLAA National Specialties and are looking forward to more shows now that Lundies can show in the AKC Miscellaneous Class.

Pacific Region director David Klick of Portland, Oregon., is a massage therapist and a 13-year owner of Lundehunds. David first read about the breed in a book, then went to see a litter: "I immediately fell in love and took home Cody, a male."

David now has Cory, nine years old, and Ingrid, who is five. He showed Cory as a veteran in December. He rescued a third female, Lys, and had her for seven months until he found her an appropriate home.

Calendar

May 24, 2008 Lundiefest at Cliffhanger, Tomales, CA, noon on. More info: sharonpederson@hughes.net

July 11. 2008 National Specialty, Eagle, CO

July12-13, 2008 RFKC AKC show, Eagle, CO

Sept 2008 Northwest Lundiefest, Mukilteo, WA, date TBA

For the dates of other AKC shows, go to http://www.akc.org/events/search/



Brenda Solomon and "Q" who finished his UKC championship in November with 3 group placements in the Northern Group.

Keep Them Coming...

Many thanks to those of you who have been sending in pictures and items for the newsletter. Your photos are wonderful! Please keep them coming. And EVERYONE remember that your contributions are welcomed. Please send them to rwaldmann1@mac.com. And be sure to let me know if you change your e-mail address.