



ERIE KENNEL CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2012

Exciting Things 2012

OFFICERS

President:

Carol Maxwell

Vice President:

Bonnie Kotyuk

Secretary:

Thelma Kraut

Treasurer:

Janet Norman

Corresponding Secretary:

Cindy Stubenhofer

BOARD MEMBERS

Chuck Moyer

Lou Norman

Roberta Cutshall

Michelle Vincent

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Cindy Stubenhofer

BREEDER REFERALL

Cindy Stubenhofer

ekcbreedreferall@juno.com

[m](mailto:ekcbreedreferall@juno.com)

SUNSHINE CHAIR

Melanie Shufan

(814) 825-9393

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Anthony Stefanelli

Dear EKC members:

As most of you know, discussions and dreams of having a place to train—a place to call home—have been going on for years. At one time, the club did own a property but there was little chance of being able to maintain it without significant income. The property was sold and the revenue safely tucked away in a bank. In 2009, Dave and Debbie Anthony took our All-Breed Conformation and Obedience Trials to a place of prominence on the national stage. For the first time in its history, EKC had significant income. The show has grown each successive year and we now have a signed contract with the Bayfront Convention Center through 2018. This dramatic change of fortune has brought the dreams of owning our own home to a very real possibility. There are not a lot of properties that fit our criteria but the search committee has visited a few places and one or two have promise. We are eligible for no-cost consulting from Gannon University Small Business Development Center, whose staff will guide us through creating financial projections so we can verify feasibility. In addition, we also qualify for a mortgage through Economic Development Council of Erie County. By our preliminary calculations, we believe the club can easily afford a \$200,000.00 property.

By now, you have received the survey we sent to active local members and we are anxiously awaiting your feedback. If you have not already done so, please return your survey. This is a very important step if EKC is to acquire a property. If the survey reveals little support, the Search Committee will be disbanded and the club will continue as is. On the other hand, if the survey shows support for property acquisition, the committee will follow through the necessary steps and submit a proposal to the members. Please be assured that no decision about purchasing a specific property will be made without membership input.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform those who are not able to attend meetings about our efforts to promote the club.

In March we formed a Steering Committee to identify problem areas and to offer solutions to the board and membership. Utilizing the brain storming model, we identified several issues.

To better utilize volunteer capital, we will be asking General Board seats to take on specific responsibilities. These will include Building & Grounds, PR and name recognition, Membership, Event coordination, and other committees that may arise from time to time. Michelle Vincent is already working on Public Service Announcements and Cindy Stubenhofer is researching the PennDot Adopt-A-Highway program.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please contact me or any board member. We would heartily welcome member input through any channel, but we would mostly like to see more member participation at our regular meetings.

Again, please submit your survey. If you have lost yours, contact Lou Norman, jlnorman52@roadrunner.com and he will send you another.

All the best to each of you,*

Carol Maxwell

Coming Events 2012

May 16
General Membership Meeting 7:30 PM
Board Meeting 6:30 PM
Waterford Boro Building

July 18
EKC Family Picnic Carol Maxwell's house

September 8
Eye Clinic

September 15
Paws in the Park

October
Agility Trial at Countryside

January 4, 5, and 6
Agility Trial at Countryside

January 26 & 27
All Breed Conformation Show and
Obedience Trial

Erie Kennel Club has voted Laurie
Kotch in as new member.
Please add Laurie to your
membership list.

WELCOME

Laurie D. Koch
440 W. Townhall Rd
Waterford, PA 16441
Cell phone 412-849-6079
Email - LDK@askprocess.com

Attention!!

May Membership Meeting
is
Wednesday, May 16
7:30 pm

Waterford Boro Hall

Erie Kennel Club's Life Member David Swartwood reports on his January Judging assignment in South America.

Chile 2012

Expocan Copa Del Pacifico January 14 & 15, 2012

Chile is an unspoiled paradise everyone should visit. A narrow ribbon of land 2,700 miles in length and averaging just over 100 miles in width. It is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and on the east by the Andes mountains. Its climate varies from desert in the north to a more fertile Mediterranean climate in the middle and ending in the south with a cooler climate. Almost isolated from the rest of the world by the rugged terrain, Chileans are a very self-sufficient people with the very best in foods and wines due to the climates and rich soils that they make the best of.

We were lucky to be invited in the middle of their summer to judge in the beautiful seaside town of Vina Del Mar. It's just 90 minutes outside Santiago, the capitol where it can be quite warm during the summer. The Chilean Kennel Club holds their January show in a beautiful park where you can share your ring with palm trees and other exotic plants as well as an occasional visit from one of the local dogs who, during the day, can wonder at their own leisure. This is the height of their tourist season and the atmosphere was one of being on holidays with a great turnout of spectators.

The Kennel Club of Chile's President, Mario Di Vanni was our tour guide, interpreter and entertainment. I have yet to see a judge's lunch like we had with local wines and seafood and the meals in the evening were exceptional. We were truly spoiled.

The club runs three shows over the two days. An interesting concept as on the first day half the breeds and groups are judged a total of three times by three judges. Only the winners of those groups need to return the next day to compete in Best In Show. Luckily the weather could not have been better and most dogs held up quite well. The second day the balance of the breeds and groups culminated with the three best in shows. Each Best was divided into three age groups, puppies, juniors and adult. Then each Best was further divided into 5 placements. This meant a lot of recognition for the dogs and owners and judges also needing to really pay attention as they pointed out 5th runner up, 4th runner up, etc. culminating in the Best In Show winner.

I was very lucky to be able to watch each judge and even watch the same breed multiple times as I had only two specialties to judge so plenty of free time to be a spectator and learn from the International masters. There were especially strong entries in Pugs and Afghans and to watch Pug breeder Ricardo Saldana and Afghan expert Pam Bruce officiate over their own breeds was an opportunity one doesn't often experience. I pulled up a chair right in the ring with them and watched with awe. At one point Pam came back to me and showed me the goose bumps that one particular bitch gave her. This young bitch Shaira Bint Benasid Von Haussman bred by the world renowned Ramon Podesta went on to win Best In Show under Pam and reserve Best in Show under both Tom Nesbitt and Miguel Martinez.

Meanwhile the Pugs rose to the top as well, Didiel Mucho Con Demasiado, bred and owned by Juan Claveria and Enrique Cid, topped the breed, group and took Best In Show under Thom Nesbitt. Both the Afghan and Pug also came from the junior's class both taking a Best In Show at that level as well. I can see these two dogs, both locally bred, battling for the top spot for a long time. Sr. Martinez found a lovely English Bulldog for his Best in Show, Martmorebulls Code Red of Floriobull.

The show also held four specialties. I was fortunate to judge the Group 8 specialty which included labs, goldens and spaniels whose winner was a lovely black lab, Franco De G'Bau, that could compete anywhere in the world. I also judged the Group 4-Dachshund Specialty which was Chile's biggest dachshund entry yet and was dominated by the mini smooths. The winner was Ch. Dynadaux Redneck Velvetcake MS, bred in the US. The breeders in Chile have sourced some exceptional dogs of which to build on and have incorporated them into their breeding programs, the quality was evident in the youngsters I was judging.

Pam Bruce officiated over the Schnauzer Specialty which included 4 varieties of which white is one of them. The final specialty was for the Chilean Terrier judged by Miguel Martinez. I had never seen this breed before but it is quite popular in Chile, it is similar to a larger version of a Toy Fox Terrier. An entry of 18 was topped by Bellaco Santa Josephina Del Lepanto.

I must say that the Chilean Kennel club is doing something right. The shows are once a month and rotate around the country. They are well attended and entice exhibits from many of the other South American countries. They are well organized and volunteers are able to show their own dogs or have them with a handler. Sportsmanship was outstanding with every judge's decision ending with the winners receiving a handshake from the others. If there were any sore losers it wasn't evident in the ring.

We ended our trip with a wine tour of the Concha Y Toro winery and made a new friend with the Carmenere variety, pretty much a Chilean exclusive. After touring and tasting at the winery I can now cross one more thing off my list from the book, 1000 Places To See Before You Die. I do however have to get back to Chile as they have two other sites listed as a must-see!

With two of Chile's most well-known events in the last few years being trapped miners and earthquakes, we were treated to a mild earthquake as we sat at the airport waiting to return home. Everyone nervously giggled and looked around to confirm that was what they felt and then went back to eating. I think it was just Chile's way of saying goodbye and comeback soon.

Thank you David for an informative, colorful report about your assignment in Chili.

We will be looking forward to the story of your adventure in Africa!