



PUPPY TALES

News & Views From
Erie Kennel Club



Op-ed:

Now that the show has been over for a few days and I've had a chance to digest a few things, we can all heave a sigh of relief. As always, there were a lot of well-deserved good comments from many people and sectors about the show.

This show is a lot of work for some and others choose not to be involved for their own reasons or limitations.

A question I ask myself is, "why does the club put on this show?" Is it for money, fun, tradition, to have a show close to home, to see how good we can do it, camaraderie or some other reason? All of those may be valid reasons but I don't know how many are actually true in our club's effort to put on the show. Some members seem to not even want to say "hello" to me or never come to a meeting, so I guess camaraderie might not be a strong point. I think the actual fun of putting on a show is limited. The money is generally good and helps keep the training building in existence. And who wants to end something that's been going on since 1906?

We have roughly 49 members who live close enough to come to meetings or help at the show. I know some are unable due to health or other restrictive problems. But to have such a small number make an appearance to help set up or tear down and get the vendors out is indicative, in my opinion, of why members should consider if the All Breed Show should continue.

I am not on the board and I do not show a dog in any venue. I have always helped because I wanted to see the club succeed. Are there enough members who really want the show and club to go on? The membership is aging. Soon the doers will be worn out or gone. I for one am having a very hard time dealing with the vendor job. Is anyone willing and able to do that at some point? Three of us worked like mad until 8:30 Sunday night to finish loading the vendors and waiting until the last one was out. I know the vendors appreciated it but did anyone in the club appreciate it?

My purpose in writing this is to spark some interest within the club and get some discussion going as to how we will move forward as a club and in putting on an annual show of such proportions with such limited involvement.

Lou Norman

Commentary:

I urge all of you to consider Lou's message... what do you want from the club and what can you do for the club?

FYI—all your annual dues together do not pay the electric bill. If you want to preserve the sport of purebred dogs, you have to do more. You cannot sit on the sidelines and expect a few to do all that is necessary to maintain an active and progressive club. Since this is my last Newsletter, I am going to be blunt—if all you do is use the club to further your own interests then you are a hindrance, not a help.

I am 72 years old and I do not know how much longer I have to enjoy my life with my husband and dogs. With the exception of very few, I do not see a reflection of my values here so I have decided that this is the end of my time and energy donations. I will maintain my membership to help preserve the Agility Trials but President Anthony Stefanelli has accepted my resignations from the Show Committee, Newsletter Editor, and Recording Secretary. Farewell and good luck.

Carol Maxwell

Upcoming Events:

- **Cabin Fever Awards Dinner**~ Saturday February 18, 2017 at Joe Roots Grill
- **Eye Clinic**~February 25, 2017 at Camboro Veterinary Hospital
- **EKC Agility Trial**~ April 14, 15, 16/2017
- **Annual Club Picnic**~ July 19, 2017
- **DUES PAYABLE DEADLINE~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2017**
- **Annual meeting/elections**~ September 20, 2017
- **Eye Clinic**~ September, date TBD
- **EKC Agility Trial**~September 29, 30, 31/2017
- **EKC Agility Trial**~October 20, 21, 22/2017
- **Club Christmas Party**~ TBD

Next membership meeting

7:30pm, March 15, 2017

9457 Wattsburg Rd, Erie Pa 16509

Cabin Fever Dinner
Saturday February 18
Gather at 4, Dine at 5
Joe Roots Grill
2826 West 8th Street

Anthony Stefanelli, President; Andrea Bubna, V President; TBA, Rec Secretary; Cindy Stubenhofer, Cor. Secretary; Kathy Croft, Treasurer
Board members: Marilyn Flower, Jamie Nevel, Jeanne Stiner, Dennis von Hof
Breed Referral: Cindy Stubenhofer Training & Education: Janet Norman Sunshine: Jane Edel Newsletter Editor: TBA