

Hi Everybody!

Our April 18 & 19 NADAC Agility trial is fast approaching. Entries close April 6, so get your entries in to me ASAP. For the new students, the show will be held at the Mosaic Arena at the Manatee County Fairgrounds. It's a lovely venue, a covered arena with plenty of parking and large bleachers for spectators. To get there, From I-75: Take exit 224 (old 43) onto US 301 westbound. It becomes 10th St. W. in Palmetto. Continue to 14th Ave. You will cross US 41 and business 41. Turn right onto 14th Ave. and continue to the fairground entrance on your right. Come and watch some great agility dogs!

Dangerous Legislation for All of Us!!!

A new Legislative Alert has been posted to the AKC's web site. To view this alert, please click on the following link, or cut and paste it into your web browser: http://www.akc.org/news/index.cfm?article_id=3752

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Florida Alert: Bill Places Numerous Regulations on Dog Breeders and Owners [Print This Article](#) [Monday, March 02, 2009]

A bill has been introduced in the Florida House of Representatives to limit dog ownership and impose numerous regulations on responsible breeders and dog owners, including imposing regulations on any person owning 10 or more dogs and limiting ownership to 50 dogs. **All Florida responsible dog owners and breeders are encouraged to contact their State legislators and express their opposition to House Bill 1249 and its companion bill, Senate Bill 2002.**

AKC's mission includes working to protect the rights of all dog owners and promoting responsible dog ownership. The AKC abhors neglectful treatment of dogs and strongly supports the humane treatment including providing an adequate and nutritious diet, clean living conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsive human companionship and training in appropriate behavior—regardless of whether the dogs are in a kennel, shelter, or even someone's home.

The AKC also believes that numerical limits do not address the

underlying issues of responsible ownership and proper dog care. Instead, the AKC supports reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of all dogs without restricting the rights of owners or breeders who take their responsibilities seriously.

If adopted, House Bill 1249/Senate Bill 2002 ([click here to read the bill](#)) would impose numerous unenforceable provisions. These include:

- Prohibiting tail docking and ear cropping except by a licensed veterinarian.
- Imposing stringent engineering standards for anyone owning 10 or more intact dogs at least four months of age.
- Allowing for a warrantless search by any animal control officer or "other authorized public health or safety official", either upon the receipt of a complaint or upon the officer's "own initiative".
- Prohibiting anyone from owning, possessing, controlling, or having charge or custody of more than 50 intact dogs over the age of four months at any time.

Exempting public animal shelters, nonprofit humane societies/animal adoption/rescue organizations, veterinary facilities, retail pet stores, research institutions, and boarding facilities from the standards of care required in this bill.

WHAT

YOU CAN DO:

- We urge all responsible dog breeders and owners in Florida to contact their state legislators and politely, yet strongly express your opposition to House Bill 1249 and Senate Bill 2002.

[Click here](#) for the Florida House of Representatives' contact information (If you do not know your district, [click here](#)).

[Click here](#) to find your State Senator and their contact information.

For a sample letter to personalize and send, [click here](#).

RESOURCES:

For tips on how to effectively communicate with legislators, please [click here](#).

For a copy of our *Disagree Diplomatically* brochure, please [click here](#).

From: AKC Communications <communications@akc.org>

The American Kennel Club would like to correct some misinformation that is circulating within the fancy. We would appreciate your assistance in spreading the word about the facts on this issue.

The AKC is aware that NIGHTLINE, which airs on ABC, is pursuing a story on canine health, including breeding. The AKC welcomes all constructive dialogue about the sport and on ways to improve the health of dogs. However, all indications are that the story will not be a fair and balanced look at the issues. With the guidance of our advisors, the AKC declined to participate but instead provided NIGHTLINE with an official statement:

"The American Kennel Club is the nation's leading not-for-profit organization devoted to canine health, breeding and responsible dog ownership. The AKC's breeding policies and high ethical standards have made us the most widely respected registry in the world. Each year, the AKC performs approximately 5,000 kennel and breeder inspections to ensure the proper care and conditions of dogs and has led the charge in regards to advancing canine health, including founding the AKC Canine Health Foundation in 1995. Since that time, \$22 million has been given to more than 500 research projects at 74 vet schools and research institutes worldwide to improve the health of all dogs."

It has also come to our attention that some individual AKC constituents have been approached for interviews or may be approached at dog shows. In this event we recommend politely declining the interview and referring their requests to the AKC's Communications dept at communications@akc.org or 212-696-8343.

You may also direct those interested in this topic to www.akcdoghealth.com for pertinent information.

American Kennel Club Communications
communications@akc.org

*****Permission to cross-post to all breed, club and dog show lists*****

Also from AKC

From: BARBARA BUDNAR (AKC Rep)
Subject: Rumor of new \$25 AKC fee

In case you have heard anything about this, I wanted to pass on the official word from AKC on a proposed \$25 annual fee for all dogs participating in AKC events.

"There are no plans to initiate any type of activity fee. As the President's report at the December 2008 AKC Delegate Meeting clearly indicates, the Future Program is "conceptual in nature." The fact is, contrary to any rumor someone may have told you, the Program has not been proposed or recommended."

Hope this helps!

Please pass this on when you have the opportunity.

Take care,

Barb Budnar

No Classes

There will be no classes Thursday March 26, Friday, March 27, and Monday, March 28. I will be going to North Carolina for the AKC Agility Nationals.

No classes on Friday, April 10 (Pasco Paws CPE trial).

Congratulations!

To Lucky, Coton de Tulear owned by Brenda and Alvin Magnon, on earning his MACH 2 at the Imperial Polk Agility trial on March 8. Lucky was the first Coton in the World to earn Obedience and Agility titles, and he is also the first Coton in the world to earn a MACH 2.

To Tia, my Boxer for being named by the American Boxer Club the Top Performance Dog of 2008. She was also chosen the Top Agility Boxer for 2008.

Tia has earned 102 titles in the 4 years that she has been competing.

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Our First S.T.A.R. Puppies

Jill Watson & Mac (Rottweiler)
Paul Arrington & Zoey (German Shepherd)
Karla Plastek & Maggie (Hound Mix)
Joan Mulches & Cruiser (Portuguese Water Dog)
Ellen Matheson & Milka (Labradore Retriever)
Lori Kishel & Mia (Golden Retriever)
Martha Baldauf & Marley (Boxer)
Lisa McKim & Dash (Australian Shepherd)
Michelle Kase & Cuddles (Maltese/Yorkie)
Shalia & Don Spears with Zeus (Lab Mix)
Shelly Burton & Mija (Dutch Shepherd)

Basic Obedience

Stephanie Brown & Roxie (Labrador Retriever)
Brenda Mueller & Casper (Golden Retriever)
Stephanie Grimes & Bongo (All American)
Deb McCoy & Willow (Terrier Mix)
Suzy McMullen & Barrett (Cavalier King Charles)
Candace Klein & Mindy (Poodle)
Anna Alexander & Harvey (Pit Bull Mix)

Basic Agility

Terri Dempsey & Indy (Australian Shepherd)
George & Anne Cussins with Maria (Welsh Corgi)
Lindsay Rosato & Raven (Border Collie)
Sheryl Salvadore & Mojo (Australian Shepherd)
Jennifer Agostine & Teddy (Shih Tzu)
Virginia Keith & Demi (Havanese)
Cheri Taylor & Havoc (Boxer)
Bobby Nadal & Marly (Boxer)

Class Schedule

Monday:

6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting April 20, 2009)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (next class starting March 16, 2009)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Conformation (This is an on-going class)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 AM to 10:00AM - Small Dog Agility
6 to 7PM - Distance work class
7:00 PM Masters Level Agility

Wednesday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Basic Agility
10:30 to 11:30 AM - Rally
6:15 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class (Next class starting March 11, 2009)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate Agility
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting March 19, 2009)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility
10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

There is interest in a daytime Obedience class. This would be Wed. 9AM after the Basic Agility class graduates. All those interested please let me know.

...and now, time for a paws...

Ileana