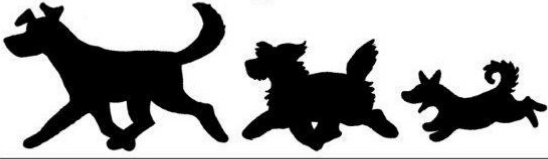


Mixed Breed Dog Clubs of America



# Mixed Reviews

www.mbdca.org

Volume 22, Issue 3

October, 2011

## President's Message

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**MBDCA President, Kitty Norwood, hiking with her dogs Rex and Diva.**

Happy Fall, everyone! Hope you are having fun with your dogs: either training and showing or out hiking enjoying the cooling breezes and leaf changes. In the San Francisco Bay Area, the vine that turns a gorgeous burgundy red is poison oak! At least it is easy to spot now as we continue to work on Rex's 16 backpacking miles and Diva's 200 backpacking miles (we have about 140 remaining).

A big thank you to Ann Dahlin from the California Chapter who is taking over as editor of the Mixed Reviews. She will incorporate news from the clubs and individual members so we can all see what is going on across the country. Send her pictures of you and your dog competing or just having fun.

What's our future going to be? This winter the California Chapter is hoping to answer that question. With falling membership numbers and not enough volunteers to hold all of their events, they are sending out a survey to see just what members want and what they are willing to do to help out. The newsletter is a great place to share what makes your club a success and how you attract new members.

National Specialty--If you have intentions of attending the 2012 National Specialty in the San Francisco Bay Area, please let Chapter Rep, Betsy Jones, know. That way the club can decide whether to run a two-day or one-day specialty.

The sky is clear blue as I write this but I know that in a few short months, I'll be doing most of my training in the garage on the road to Rex's U.D.

Keep training!



**Is your dog an All Star? Your dog can be featured on the MBDCA website if it is an All Star in obedience, rally, agility, conformation, etc. Check out the All Star page for the requirements!**

# National Officers and Board of Directors

## President

Kitty Norwood from Redwood City, CA  
650-363-3109 bobonorwood@comcast.net

## Vice President

Lorraine Pedersen from Lake Stevens, WA  
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314-832-2466 fbeezley@charter.net

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### St. Louis

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636-397-2137 huskyslady@gmail.com

### Washington

JoAnne Mulligan from Monroe, WA  
360-793-6652 mullijm@yahoo.com

## Membership Updates

### MEMBERS ADDING NEW DOGS

#### Jackie Phillips

2399 E. 14th St., #156, San Leandro, CA 94577-6064  
11-011 Woodacre's Lucky Dragon - Catahoula Leopard  
Dog/Pit Bull Terrier Mix

#### Leslie Lenz

16207 Bear Branch Ct., Wildwood, MO 63005-7003  
PB 11-505 Kyroka and T.J. Roc's Ajax Tri Hard With  
a Vengeance - Australian Shepherd

### ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

#### Sherri Moury

434 E. Wyckliffe, Collinsville, IL 62234-3555  
11-010 Lucy Girl - Ridgeback/Labrador Ret. Mix

### CORRECTION

Patty Wright - Her first name should be PATTI.

## Judge Updates

06/24/2011 - 09/06/11

**Note:** If you need an updated copy of the list of judges for your area, e-mail your request to me at:

Libi-Lew@juno.com or libilew@frontier.com.

### CALIFORNIA

MOORE, Kathy N, O, U, RN, RA, RE

### ILLINOIS

KAHN, Elaine L. N, RN

### MISSOURI

EDWARDS, Audrey RN

### NEW YORK

CURREY, Louann N, O, U, RN, RA, RE

### WASHINGTON

VAUGHAN, Earl N, O, U, RN, RA, RE

# New Editor's Message

By Ann Dahlin

## Why Me?

I will be the new editor of Mixed Reviews. The National Board's decision to have me edit Mixed Reviews came from my suggesting it. I had previously edited the California Chapter's newsletter for one year. After a year, I switched jobs and became the Chapter's Treasurer instead. The two people who took over the California Chapter quarterly found they simply didn't have the time for newsletter editing. So I recently volunteered to edit the Chapter newsletter a second time.

Kitty Norwood told me that all of the Chapters either don't have a newsletter or also have difficulties maintaining them. From our conversation, it occurred to me that consolidating the editing jobs for all the Chapters would be a good use of Mixed Reviews. This way, all the Chapters can report about their activities on a regular basis without having to each maintain separate newsletters. Kitty and the National Board agreed and now instead of editing the California Chapter newsletter, I will be editing Mixed Reviews.

## Newsletter Articles and Additions

The format of Mixed Reviews will now include a section for each regional chapter to give their members an update on their chapter. At the same time, the rest of the MBDCA membership will get to enjoy reading about what the other clubs are doing. I also plan to include small calendars where each region can list any pertinent events of interest to their chapter members. If a Regional Chapter does not report anything to me, then I'll leave that particular chapter out of the newsletter.

In addition, I will certainly continue printing stories about members and their dogs, their brags, their new dogs, and their competition adventures. If everyone can help me and do a little writing, we can keep Mixed Reviews an interesting newsletter that the members will look forward to.

## What to Submit

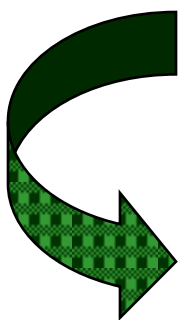
If you would like to make a submission to Mixed Reviews, here's what will be needed: An article written in MS Word. Photos are not necessary but highly encouraged. Photos need to be in either bit-map (.bmp) or jpeg (.jpg) format. Calendar items must be about organized dog sports including workshops, seminars, and training events relevant to that. Things like a 'Doggie Photos with Santa Day' would not fit the requirement.

We'll also stay away from duplicating the calendars of the larger sporting organizations such as CPE, USDAA, AKC, UKC, and ASCA. The exception would be if you are in a region where an event by one of the larger venues is so rare that its worth calling attention to. For example, in the area where I live there's no need to announce AKC trials of any type, since they are the most common sporting venue in this region. However, UKC has always had a tough time taking hold in this region. Therefore, a UKC obedience trial, for example, can be worth putting into the calendar if members might be interested.

## My Rules

After editing the California newsletter, I gained enough experience to come up with my following rules: All articles must be complete and in MS Word. I reserve the right to edit any submission for the purposes of fitting the layout of the newsletter, shortening the article, or correcting grammar and spelling errors. I will also remove email language such as "LOL!" and "BTW" etc. I also reserve the right to postpone a submission until a later issue if the submission comes in past the deadline or if there is no space left in a current issue. And finally, I reserve the right to reject an incomplete submission or one that is not submitted in MS Word

OK then, enough with the rules. I really hope to hear from everyone at some point. You can email me any time with your submissions, compliments, or complaints.



Think about it. There are very few places where Mixed Breed Dog owners can brag about their accomplishments in ALL activities, sports, as well as about their conformation wins. Also, where else can you talk about your new Mixed Breed dogs, your new rescues, and your adventures training for and competing in ALL types of dogs shows and trials. This is the place to do that.

**We have many more terrific brags in this issue. Please read about all the accomplishments of your fellow club members!**

Send me your brags, stories about your new dogs, your training and trialing stories, calendar items, and your opinion pieces about this club.

Email your submissions to Ann: [ann6789@msn.com](mailto:ann6789@msn.com).

# Chapter News

## California

Kitty Norwood, President

Dawn Bushong, Vice President, Web Master

Ann Dahlin, Treasurer

Lloyda French, Secretary

Website URL's: [www.MixedBreedClubCA.org](http://www.MixedBreedClubCA.org), [www.mbdcCA.org](http://www.mbdcCA.org)

You can find a complete list of Board members on the California Chapter website.

The board meeting minutes are posted on the California Chapter website.

We still have open Board positions. Please contact Kitty Norwood if you are interested in helping make club decisions and in helping organize club events.

California News Written By Ann Dahlin

### California Public Relations

Our PR Chair, Gloria McClain, along with our Membership Chair, Margaret Reed, studied the applications for membership going back several years. Gloria discovered that none of the newer members joined because of visiting one of the club's Public Relations booths at a dog-related event. Gloria and the Board decided to no longer have PR club booths, since they don't help bring in new members.

Recently, Gloria McClain resigned as PR chair, since she had only planned on taking the job temporarily. The club is grateful for the work Gloria did while PR Chair. Also, with Gloria's help, the Board has decided that print advertising will be the best way to promote the club. In addition to print advertising, the Board has gained new members and interest in the club by hosting an APDT trial which was open to all dog owners who compete in APDT rally.

Eventually, the club will need a nice ad for AKC trial catalogs and catalogs for other venues and competitions as well. Recently, the Board offered a \$25 cash reward for an ad design contest open to all Chapter members. The contest was for the best ad for AKC catalogs. Unfortunately, no one submitted an ad for the contest.

### California Business

Along with membership dues, the APDT/Conformation trial has been the only source of income so far in 2011. As of this writing, the APDT Rally and Mixed Breed Conformation trial was the club's only profitable event netting around \$425. It remains to be seen if we'll have a profitable Regional Specialty. .

According to Membership Chair, Margaret Reed, the club loses members every year and has always done so. At the same time, the club has always gained new members every year. However, the last two years we've seen a drop in new memberships. Therefore, membership numbers are lower than in the past. Most notably, we have

*California Continued -*

lost almost all Supporting Members.

The club currently faces lower membership numbers along with fewer members attending club events. The club can't simply host more profitable events such as APDT trials which include non-member entries. The reason is that as a nonprofit corporation, the club may not net more than 35% of it's income from non-members.

### California Future Directions

Board member, Lloyda French, has created a member survey to help the Board determine what the membership would like to have happen with the club. Our Web Master, Dawn Bushong, has put the survey into a convenient online format. As of this writing, the survey has not yet been distributed to club members. The Board remains open to many possible ideas, but needs to find out what members would like. Both legally and ethically, the Board needs to determine what sorts of events our members would attend and what would keep them interested in renewing their memberships.

### California's First APDT Trial

The APDT trial held in June 2011 was not only profitable as noted above, but also a success. The club hosted an a.m. trial and an afternoon p.m. trial both with Level 1 and Level 2 classes. The trials filled to capacity quickly. Fifteen MBDCA registered dogs attended the event. Thanks to Kitty Norwood's hard work, the trial turned out to be well run and we received a lot of positive feedback from competitors.

During lunch, the club hosted a Mixed Breed Conformation show which was well attended by club members. Several club members came just for the conformation. It was a very nice event that caught the attention of many people at the rally trial. The dogs looked great and were very nicely handled. We had a terrific conformation judge, Nancy Jones, who did a thorough and thoughtful job of deciding the day's winners. In my opinion, it was one of the nicest conformation shows our club has held.

The club credits and thanks non-member local APDT trial regulars who volunteered to do much of the work. Without the help of these non-members, the trial would not have been possible. Another big thank you goes to club member Gloria McClain who does not compete in APDT rally, but still volunteered to do some stewarding.

Club member Cathy Olson and I were in charge of ribbons and awards. For the Special Awards we picked the following: High Scoring Mixed Breed Dog, High Scoring Purebred Dog, High In Trial, Highest Double Qualifier in Level 1B and Level 2B, Happiest

*Continued Next Column -*

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## Chapter News

### *California Continued -*

Working Team, and Best Rally Spirit. Best Rally Spirit went to the team where not only the dog, but also the handler, showed the least stress in the ring and were having the most fun. Best Rally Spirit went to the team that was the best at overcoming difficult circumstances in the ring. The Special awards were large 18" ribbons and large coffee mugs with the MBDC of CA logos on them. The Highest Double Qualifier award was sponsored by a non-club member and we are very appreciative of the support. We have club members who won placements and special awards. I'll let them send in brags about those if they want to.

### California Calendar

#### **October 1 & 2, Denise Fenzi Seminar, Santa Rosa**

Drive and Motivation for All Dog Sports. For information or to sign up go to <http://www.spritebelgians.com/>

#### **October 16, MBDC of CA Regional Specialty, Milpitas**

Obedience, Rally, Obedience & Rally Tournament, Conformation  
Go to the California Chapter website for the flier and entry form.

### Washington

Anne Goldenberger, President  
JoAnne Mulligan, Vice President  
Megan Andersen, Treasurer  
Lorraine Pederson, Secretary  
Club Website URL: <http://wmbdc.org>

#### **Washington Obedience Match**

Bonnie Bird emailed me the following about the Washington Chapter:

The thing that's occupying the minds of the Washington chapter right now is whether we're going to have a fun match in October. We decided at the last meeting to have one and people volunteered to call the obedience patterns. We mentioned having an AKC judge there so that members could earn official obedience legs. The momentum was pretty strongly in favor of a match. On the other hand, there hasn't been much discussion lately, so I don't know whether the fun match is a Go or No Go. I truly hope for a match. I've never been to one, so it would be a first for me.

### With Sympathy

By Chicory Eddy

#### **Apollo, 3/17/95 - 5/19/11**

I had to say goodbye to my dear, sweet Apollo on May 19, 2011. His body finally gave out and he was ready to go. I never would have guessed back in the summer of 1995 when I brought home that cute little puppy that he would make it to 2011. Sixteen years is pretty amazing for a Collie/Bernese Mountain Dog mix, and healthy till the end. He was the sweetest, gentlest dog you could ever hope to meet.

He was my "Novice A" dog, we learned Agility, Obedience, and Rally together. Badger and Ajax definitely benefited from what Apollo and I learned together. He was so forgiving of all my mistakes. He helped me through vet school, a move from Prince Edward Island to Alaska, and finally to Oregon. I will miss my sweet boy terribly, but we had a great ride together for a very long time!



Left: Chicory Eddy with her much loved Apollo.

*To: Debbie Duncan on the loss of  
Daystar's Catch and Release CD, TD, CGC, TT*

*Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your  
precious companion.*

## Braggs!

### Gloria McClain from California

Gloria emailed that Cricket earned her first K9 Nose Work title (NW1). This happened at Cricket's very first trial! The weather was very hot, around 90 degrees, so great work Cricket. While the judges complimented Gloria's teamwork with her dogs, it wasn't enough to get her other dog, Red Dog, a title. Red Dog was not able to complete her Exterior Search within the time limit.



*Gloria McClain's, Cricket, doing the car search at a K9 Nose Work trial. [Photo by Olga Maderych]*

### Stacey Campbell from California

Stacey emailed that she has been busy competing in agility with her dog Roo!. Stacey wrote, "...She earned her MX and MXJ and has earned enough double Q's and MACH points to qualify for the Nationals next year in Reno."

**Roo! has qualified for the AKC Agility Nationals!**



*Above: Stacey Campbell's, Roo!, at an agility trial.*

### Cathy Olson from California

Cathy emailed the following about her accomplishments with Hot Spot: "...Hot Spot finished his AKC Rally Novice title in July at the Del Monte shows in Carmel. He got two first places (both out of two competitors). He already has his MB RN title - we finished that last year." Cathy also noted that Hot Spot is now working on his APDT ARCHEX Rally title as well!

### Dawn Bushong from California

Dawn's Penny and Pablo have been busy with Conformation, K9 Nose Work, and APDT Rally. Pablo only needs 4 more points to finish his MB Championship.

Meanwhile, Penny finished her MB Championship last February with a Best of Opposite Sex win at the club's Obedience trial and Conformation show. In May, Penny earned her K9 Nose Work Level 1 title. This was accomplished at her first nose work trial. Penny also took 3rd place overall. This means she had the 3rd fastest overall search time. With the Nose Work title, Penny will be able to get her Versatility Master title. Also in May, Penny finished her APDT Rally Level 3 title with two perfect scores of 210. She followed that up in June with her first two APDT Rally Champion double Q's in Level 1 and Level 2. Her double Q scores were close to perfect at 207 and 209.



*Above: Dawn Bushong's, Penny, practicing K9 Nose Work.*

### Sheila Dempsey from West Virginia

Sheila writes of her dog Patches, "I ... just received an email from the AKC rep who told me we had placed 2nd in the AKC rally rankings for Canine Partners which was published in Front and Finish. We were only one of three teams in West Virginia to title last year. The other two only had one title each. We finished 11and needed one more leg for our 12th when he had a disk collapse in October and had to have emergency surgery. I think God every day he is back to normal..."

Patches is also a Hall of Fame nominee! Write-up on page 10.

## Brag!



*Above: Bonnie Bird's super-achievers Zuzu Doodle Bird (on left) and Jigi Doodle Bird (on right) have many accomplishments. The two have earned the following titles and certificates between them: Canine Good Citizen, MB Versatility, NADAC and AKC agility titles, and MB Tracking titles. Both also passed the Therapy Dog International test and are working towards becoming registered therapy dogs.*

### Bonnie Bird from Washington

Bonnie has been very busy with her two dogs! Bonnie wrote about their accomplishments as follows:

Littermates Zuzu Doodle Bird and Jigi Doodle Bird of Bellingham, Washington, earned their first level versatility award (MB-V) from the Mixed Breed Dog Club of America. They both have Canine Good Citizen certificates, agility titles from NADAC and AKC, as well as Mixed Breed tracking titles.

Jigi recently earned two legs toward his Companion Dog, MB-CD, Rally Novice and MB-RN titles, while Zuzu is working toward RN and BN titles from AKC and MBDC. Both dogs earned double Q's in jumpers at the Chuckanut Dog Training Association's AKC trial in Lynden and both earned Q's in FAST, coming in first and second in their division. In fact, Jigi's FAST time was so remarkable, the trial secretary left her desk and went to the scorer's table to see if the scribe had made a mistake on the score sheet. (He hadn't). Zuzu got a double Q in Standard Agility as well.

As if this weren't enough, both dogs passed the Therapy Dog International test at the Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club and are in the process of becoming registered therapy dogs. They've both been busy and successful these past two months, adding credits toward the next level versatility title.

**Sparkle won a USDAA Bronze Championship!**



### Chicory Eddy from Oregon

Chicory wanted to update us on her dogs' many accomplishments. OK everyone, try to top this! Her dogs, Badger and Ajax, have the following titles as of this time: **BADGER:** AKC Rally - RN, RA. **AJAX:** AKC Rally - RN, RA, RE, AKC Obedience - CD, CDX AKC Agility - NAP, OAP, AXP, NJP, OJP, AJP, NFP, OFF, XFP UKC Obedience - U-UD, UKC Rally - URO1, ASCA Obedience - CD, ASCA Agility - RS-N, GS-N, GS-O, JS-N, JS-O NADAC Agility - S-OAC, EAC, O-OCC, S-OJC, EJC, O-TN-E, O-WV-E, HP-E, CPE Agility - C-ATCH

### Arlene Watson from California

Arlene emailed the following brag about Sparkle:

On July 16<sup>th</sup> Sparkle completed the final requirement for her US-DAA Bronze Championship. This means she qualified 15 times in each of the 6 classes (Standard, Jumpers, Gamblers, Snooker, Relay and Tournament) and it is the equivalent of a triple championship.

USDAA sets very fast course times and we are frequently over time by anywhere from 0.02 to 2 seconds. I thought Sparkle did a nice job on this run but it felt slow so I didn't even check with the score table and just ran her back to our canopy for her post-run treats. One of the score keepers happened by and mentioned that Sparkle had qualified by 0.32 seconds. I burst into tears!

This picture [see right] makes me smile because it perfectly sums up our reactions to the title. The judge looks calm, cool and collected, I look tired and relieved and Sparkle wants to know what all the fuss is about and when can she have more cookies.

*Below: Arlene Watson holding ADCH-Bronze C-ATE Diamond in the Rrruff MB-VX9 MB-RA SCH-Silver TM-Silver PGM PRM ExST ExSN ExCL ExWC ExJP ExFH ExJU ChFH AX AXF RS-N GS-N CGC (aka Sparkle).*

*Sparkle earned her USDAA Bronze Championship! Arlene poses with judge Blake Stafford. [Photo by Ellen Finch]*



## *Awards of Excellence*

**Last year's rally winner, Cathy Olson, can keep her trophy. Chicory Eddie can opt to have her obedience trophy sent after all and keep it. In any case, regardless of whether this year's winners will get a trophy or a ribbon, they will both win a gift certificate.**

By Ann Dahlin

### **The New Changes**

I decided to make a couple of changes to the Awards of Excellence that I am sponsoring. First, I made a slight change to the tie-breaker, and second, I am changing the awards themselves to something better. Even though I was going to supply the packaging and postage, I found it's asking too much of the award winners to mail back the trophies at the end of the year. Therefore, I am changing that.

I will simply send the awards to the winners for them to keep. Instead of trophies, I will order very nice large ribbons. In addition to the ribbons, I will give each winner a gift certificate for a nominal amount of \$20 towards either Dogwise.com or JJ Dog Supplies.

Last year's rally winner, Cathy Olson, can either keep her trophy or return it to me if she doesn't want to keep it. Also, last year's obedience winner, Chicory Eddie, had decided she didn't want the trophy shipped. Instead, she had me send a photo of the trophy instead to use in her scrapbook. Chicory now has the option of having that trophy sent to her. If not, then I will use the obedience trophy this year and whoever wins it will keep it. The same goes for the rally trophy if Cathy doesn't want to keep hers. In any case, whether this year's winners get a trophy or a ribbon they will also win a gift certificate.

### **The Awards**

The awards will go to the highest scoring Obedience and Rally legs. You can use scores from legs earned with the MBDCA, AKC, ASCA, UKC, APDT, and St. Hubert's. In addition, the winners can choose to have a donation sent to either the American Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals (ASPCA) or the Humane Society Of The United States (HSUS).

### **Calculation of the Highest Scores**

I will calculate the highest scores as percentages of a venue's available points. For example, in APDT rally, they have a maximum of 210 points. If someone earned a score of 197 then I will divide 197 by 210 which equals .94 or 94%.

In case of a tie, I will ask each person to send in their second highest score for the year. If someone has only competed once during the year, then the other person wins the tie. The second score needs

to be in the same sport, but not necessarily the same venue, as the first score. For example, if someone sends me a score in AKC obedience then they would need to send me a second score also in obedience. However, they could send me an obedience score from a venue other than the AKC such as ASCA.

In case of a tie using the second scores, we would move on to third scores. Another change from last year is with a third-score tie I will now send both winners an award. There is no perfect way to devise a tie-breaker so I simply have to settle with something. If someone has a better tie-breaker, please email me with your idea!

After I calculate the winning scores, the winners may need to let me verify those scores. The proof can come from a venue's website or online database, a signed score sheet, or other proof coming from the venue or official granting that score.

### **The Donations**

The winners can choose to have a donation sent either to the ASPCA or the HSUS. The amount of the donation would be the amount of the 10's digits of the winning score. For example, if someone earned a 194, the donation would be \$94. If the score is 85, then the donation would be \$85. The maximum donation will be \$100. For example, if someone earned between a 200 and 210 in APDT, the donation would be \$100. Along with the donation, I will include a dedication to the winner who made the choice.

For more information on each organization you can go to:

Humane Society of the United States at [www.humanesociety.org](http://www.humanesociety.org)

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at [www.aspc.org](http://www.aspc.org)

The donations are optional. By declining to have a donation sent a winner can still keep the award.

### **Deadline December 15th**

I would like to determine the award winners by January 1st. Please email me your highest obedience and rally scores for 2011 by December 15th.

Email your scores to me, Ann Dahlin, at [ann6789@msn.com](mailto:ann6789@msn.com). I will provide a ranking to those who submit scores.

## Hall of Fame Nominee

### For Consideration He's A PatchWork Puppy

By Sheila Dempsey, West Virginia



Hall of Fame nominee, Patches, owned by Sheila Dempsey.

I would like to nominate He's A PatchWork Puppy aka "Patches" for the Hall of Fame.

**U-CDX He's A PatchWork Puppy MB-VX3, MB-CDX, MB-RE, CDX, CGC, TDI, PJII, PKI, PSI, PDI, PGI, SR, NJP, NAP, NFP, GN, CD, RE, OJP, OAP, OFF**

We have titles through AMBOR, MBDCA, USDAA, UKC and now AKC

Although Patches is my own dog, I feel he is worthy of being nominated to the Hall of Fame. Found as a puppy in a pile of leaves in December 1999, I acquired him about 4 weeks later on January 14, 2000. He came to me as a foster, but we bonded so well, I decided to keep him. At three months of age he went to his first match and excelled in obedience. Later we became involved in Agility and Rally Obedience.

Patches achieved his CGC and TDI certification at 1 year of age. We visited a local nursing home for several years (along with his two sisters who have since passed). We also visited other institutions when we were invited; such as the VA and doing responsible dog ownership to children at schools and at area Responsible Pet Owners Day. We have done demonstrations in agility, obedience and rally obedience at different area events or at nursing homes.

In 2010 we earned our MB-VX3 title in MBDCA and in AKC Patches and I earned 11 AKC titles. Two obedience; our CD and GN. Three Rally titles; RN, RA and RE and six agility titles; NJP, NAP, NFP, OJP, OAP and OFF. We were one leg away from finishing our 12<sup>th</sup> AKC title our BN. After a three-day agility trial October 22-24, 2010 we came home after finishing our OAP and OFF titles and getting our first leg on our first try in our Excellent

*Nominee Continued -*

Fast Preferred title.

In September 2010 we also earned our first two MB-RAE legs at a match in Wheeling, WV.

Two days later on October 27, 2010 (my birthday) he had a disk collapse in his neck at home while out in the back yard playing with his sister Ginger (beagle) and our foster border jack Freckles. He was rushed to the Pittsburgh Veterinary Clinic in Pittsburgh about two hours away for an MRI and emergency surgery. He did well and came home four days later (on his birthday 11-1-10). We were on a four times a day Physical Therapy regime. I left work to come home during lunch to do his therapy along with getting up early and doing PT before work, as soon as I came home and before bed time. In two weeks we returned to his neurologist for his check up. By then he was walking fairly well and doing much better than I had expected as the vet said it might be six months to one year for his recuperation. Dr. MacKillop was pleasantly surprised that he had progressed so fast in such a short period of time. He said "very few dogs have ever been known to recover so quickly from such a serious injury (he was paralyzed and could not move anything except his eyes).

Our next visit in December 2010 was a great one. Dr. MacKillop gave us the green light to do what ever we wanted (slowly at first). He said we could go back to doing what ever we wanted to. I have elected not to continue in agility as Dr. MacKillop said we will always need to be careful of sharp jerks, turns or quick movements to his neck. He said that Patches is back to 90% and he still expects improvement. I am blessed and have thanked GOD every day for the Pittsburgh clinic staff and Dr. McKillop.

So we are getting back into obedience and rally exercises and will be competing later this year to finish our BN and start earning legs on our RAE titles.

I hope to continue in open and utility with him. As I have never put a utility leg on a dog I have owned and that is my next big goal for this year. I have never put RAE's on a dog either so he would be my first. He would also be my first AKC-CDX, RAE or UD dog.

I know very few dogs make it to the Hall of Fame, but I felt that our accomplishments over the years would warrant at least his nomination.

Patches was also profiled in the first AKC Canine Partners newsletter in October. I had been contacted by AKC to answer questions pertaining to why I feel mixed breeds should be included in AKC events. I have been an advocate for over 16 1/2 years, ever since I acquired my first mixed breed Cinnamon, who earned AMBOR and MBDCA titles, and was an awesome teacher, trying to convince the AKC to allow our wonderful mixed breed dogs to compete.

Patches and I were the first team to title in AKC events in WV and among the first five teams in the United States to title in all three

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events offered to Canine Partners by AKC. To my knowledge we are still the only WV team with AKC titles. As of December 2010, I believe we are the AKC Canine Partners team with the most AKC titles earned in 2010.

I have emailed my contact at AKC to verify this information.

I have attached copies of his AKC titles and MB-VX3 certificate and also copies of articles I wrote for the newsletter where I work and other information that may pertain to the Hall of Fame. Back in 2002 we were even on TV promoting the K9 cookbook I had published as a fundraiser to get Patches, Cinnamon and I to Indianapolis, IN for the National Championship. I am now in the process of revising it to sell as a money maker to pay off our veterinarian bill from Pittsburgh (no cheaper for dogs than people). I also have some of my own recipes I hope to patent and/or sell to a company for production and sell to dog owners who want wholesome, healthy and natural treats for their dogs.

I appreciate having the opportunity to have Patches considered for this great honor. I do not know if we will measure up, but I felt with all his accomplishments from his start of a puppy that was thrown out on a cold December day, he and I have overcome a lot of obstacles and achieved many honors because of our special relationship with each other.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Dempsey & Patches

## Hall of Fame Notice

### Hall of Fame Nominations Due Soon!

Hey all of you guys out there with fabulous dogs!! Tell the rest of us how great your dogs are (and you by extension!) by seeing if you and your pup fit the criteria to put in for our Hall of Fame (HOF) award! You can nominate yourself and your dog or someone you know who has shown exceptional qualities. To find out a little more about it, visit our national website page about the HOF: <http://www.mbdca.org/> - you can see a list of winners there as well, and please note the NINE YEAR gap when nobody was nominated or won! With all the wonderful dog and person teams we have out there, how can this be?? On that page, you can also access links that will tell you more about the award and that will send you to the Nomination Form; if you or a team you know qualifies, please fill out the Nomination Form and send it to our Secretary by December 15, 2011, or contact her with questions: Linda Lewis, 13884 State Route 104, Lucasville, OH 45648-8586 [libilew@frontier.com](mailto:libilew@frontier.com), 740.259.3941

So please give our Hall of Fame nomination committee something to do! Nominate a worthy team and maybe you'll be reading about them in the Mixed Reviews next year!

## New Titles

Kathy Shreck with Lexie's Blessing MB-RN Score 95 6/11/2011 Judge Isla Markl  
Bonnie Bird with Zuzu Doodle Bird MB-V  
Bonnie Bird with Jigi Doodle Bird MB-V

**Congratulations!**

## A Message from Our Conformation Chair

Dawn Bushong, our Conformation Chair, would like everyone to know that members should send Conformation results to her. Dawn's email is [dawn@bushong.net](mailto:dawn@bushong.net).

Send obedience, rally, and all other scores to Fran Beezley. Fran's email is [fbeezley@charter.net](mailto:fbeezley@charter.net).

## Versatility Titles Don't Miss Out!

### Getting that Versatility Title is Easier Than You Think!

Have you won Highest Scoring Mixed Breed at AKC, APDT, ASCA, etc. trials? Win three and you have one point in Category One. Have you attended three seminars with your dog--you have one point in Category One! And if your dog has a few titles in Obedience and Rally--you have enough categories to qualify for the Mixed Breed Versatility title! Or does your dog have a CGC or have you hiked with your dog the required amount of miles for his size (add a backpack, hike the miles again, and you have two categories)? Just download the requirements ([mbdca.org](http://mbdca.org) Rules and Regulations) and see what your dog has and what he needs to get a title--then go have some fun. When you have enough points and categories fill out your application and wait for your certificate. If you have earned Dog Scout badges please contact Kitty Norwood to figure out how they fit the requirements. Remember your AKC titles count for versatility points, also.

## 2012 Nationals Notice

### California Needs RSVP's

The California Chapter needs everyone to RSVP about the 2012 Nationals. So NOT this coming fall (2011), but next year. We'll be returning to this question in the future, but we do need a head count on who will attend. The California Chapter will host the Nationals in the San Francisco Bay Area. Contact California Representative, Betsy Jones, to RSVP. Her phone and email are: 831-423-7499 [bjmoonshadow@hotmail.com](mailto:bjmoonshadow@hotmail.com)

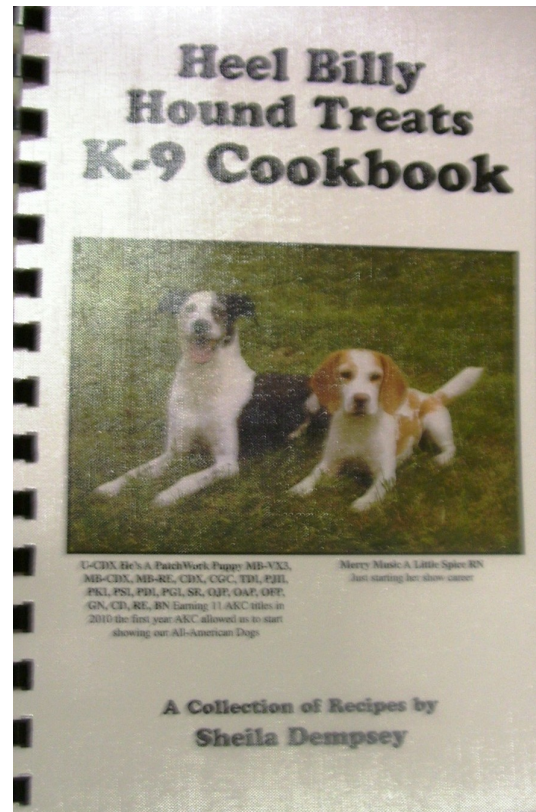
## *Help A Club Member While Getting Some New Recipes!*

Sheila Dempsey has written a canine treat cookbook in order to raise money for Patches' veterinarian bills. Please read Patches' story in the 'Hall of Fame Nominee' article on page nine. If you are interested in getting some recipes, here's a great way to do that. Sheila's book contains 320 recipes! So please consider this book if you are interested in getting some new recipes.

Our apologies for the blurry book picture. Sheila and I were in a rush to get this in and didn't have time to fix that.

To contact Sheila about her cookbook, you can reach her at (304) 884-6982 or email [Gon2thedogs@cs.com](mailto:Gon2thedogs@cs.com).

**320 dog treat recipes!**



## *The AKC's Wild Card Obedience Classes*

The AKC has several Non-Regular Obedience classes called Wild Card Novice, Open, and Utility. To read the rules on these classes, you can look in the AKC rulebook in the section 'Non-Regular Classes'. As with all the Non-Regular classes, you do not need to earn a qualifying score to win ribbons or prizes. To enter these classes, your dog only needs the ability to perform the exercises for the class and does not need a title.

The judge runs the Wild Card classes in the same manner as the regular obedience classes. The judge also uses the same scoring as with the regular obedience classes. However, in Wild Card you will pick one exercise to be your wild card or 'freebie'. You have the option of performing your wild card exercise or not. If you choose not to, you still get full points for that exercise. Also, if you choose to do your wild card exercise, you will receive the full points for that exercise no matter how well your dog performs.

In Wild Card, you are allowed to verbally encourage your dog. The rules say that, "...verbal praise during the exercises is to be encouraged and not penalized". While you may verbally praise your dog, you should not give too many multiple commands as these will be penalized.

Next time you see the Wild Card classes listed on an entry form, consider giving these classes a try. They provide an opportunity to talk to your dog in the obedience ring. On top of that, you don't have to worry about NQing! Depending upon who your competition is, you still may have a chance at a ribbon or prize even if you screw up one of the exercises!

## *Mixed Breeds From Our Past*

### *The Doberman Pinscher*

One individual developed the Doberman Pinscher for use as a guard dog. It is thought the breeds he used to create the Doberman were the Old Shorthaired Shepherd, Rottweiler, Black and Tan Terrier, and the German Pinscher.