



# ATLANTA KENNEL CLUB DIGEST

MARCH 2015



Wednesday  
MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>

## OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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ponyguru@aol.com

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Ginger Aldrich/770-380-9404  
snofire@aol.com

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

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maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com

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smileypoms@gmail.com

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karen@zencor.com

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### AKC DELEGATE

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### BOARD MEMBERS

#### CLASS OF 2015

Gilda Mallik/770-394-4098  
gilndon@comast.net;

Kathleen Steen/770-751-0133  
kathleensteen@bellsouth.net

Carol Simmons/770-967-2105  
cnsdals@bellsouth.net

#### CLASS OF 2016

Paul Averill, DVM/706-865-7010

Wayne Holbrook/770-664-5756  
wayne\_holbrook@mindspring.com

Carl Vitner/404-291-0123  
samoyed@bellsouth.net

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

**CLOSING DATE of OUR Perry Show is MARCH 25TH.**  
**NO MAILED PREMIUMS unless requested.**  
**ONLINE PREMIUMS ARE UP NOW on Onofrio,**  
**our website, and the www.Peach-Blossom.org website.**

### March Menu

#### MENU UNAVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

*Mixed Green Salad with Choice of Dressing*  
(Fresh Sliced Fruit Plate substitute for dessert)

KIDS CHOICE: Chicken Fingers and Fries  
All Meals are served with Fresh Bread and Butter, Coffee & Tea

**Alternate Choices upon request when making reservations.**

**Vegetarian Choice is available.**

#### MARCH 18, 2015 MEETING PROGRAM:

**SPEAKER: JAMES TAYLOR - from the Herding/Working Digest**  
*"The Hedda Hopper of the Dog World"*

At 16 James worked for Kennel Review (now changed to Dogs in Review) and has been involved with putting magazines together since then. He is now the editor of the Herding/ Working Digest. He has worked on the AKC/Eukanuba show since its beginning. His own breed is the Akita.

James will talk about the insider tips to advertise your dogs effectively and will recount some of his many interesting experiences in the World of Dogs!

### NEW LOCATION:

#### DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON HOTEL ~ ROSWELL

1075 Holcomb Bridge Road • Roswell, GA 30076

Phone: 770-992-9600

[www.atlantaroswell.doubletree.com](http://www.atlantaroswell.doubletree.com)

**Time:** 6:45 pm Salads Served • 7:15-8:00 pm Dinner  
8:00 pm (Sharp) Program begins • 8:45-9:15 pm Adjourn

Directions: Take GA-400 North to Exit 7B Roswell exit and turn onto Holcomb Bridge Road going West TOWARDS Roswell; the hotel is located .5 mile on the left at the second traffic light, Dogwood Road.

#### **RSVP: DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** If you plan to eat with us!

You are not required to have dinner however. Join us for drinks or come shortly before 8 for the program only and short business meeting following. Please be sure to call ahead for your reservations if you plan to join us for Dinner as the Restaurant has a cut off for reservations and cancellations. Contact our **Kellie Holbrook - 770-664-5756** or email her at [holbrookcc@mindspring.com](mailto:holbrookcc@mindspring.com) **\*NO LATER than Friday at NOON (March 13\*)** prior to the meeting on the following Wednesday. If you are on the standing reservation list and do not attend you will be billed for your meal. Price \$25 adults (this price reflects the reduction to the members from the actual cost as Atlanta KC subsidizes all dinners in the amount of \$5 each as a benefit of membership) and \$5 for children under 12. If you have special menu needs please mention this to the Hospitality Chair when you make your reservations. If you decide later to attend you can order food "to go" in the restaurant & bring it upstairs to eat with us. Let us know if you can and a place will be held at a table.



## Birthdays

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Colton Hayes 3/6

Melody Van Norden 3/11

Kimberly Benkiser 3/15

Gary Johnson 3/15

Ann Wallin 3/16

Carol Wilson 3/19

Toni Boorstein 3/20

Connie Brittain 3/22

Bart Susany 3/27

Becky Norton 3/27

William B. Davis 3/31

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

Susan Adams 4/1

Kylie Soafer 4/2

Joan Dudman 4/12

Susan Benkiser 4/13

## Anniversaries

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:

George & Alice Carnahan 3/21

Gilda & Donald Mallik 3/21

*Birthdays are mid-month to mid-month.*  
**Anyone Missing? Please let us know so we can get our lists up to date!!**  
**Contact: Ginger Aldrich • snofire@aol.com**

## JUDGES SELECTION COMMITTEE 2014-2015

The Judges committee is meeting very soon and soliciting suggestions for Spring next year Please be aware that preference is given to judges that can do enough breeds and groups to enable them to be used over the Cluster weekend. 2 Groups or more is very desirable They are also seeking judges that may not have judged in our area recently.

We have a policy to avoid hiring judges that have judged our clusters within a period of 2 years or 4 shows. This policy was recently clarified. It is sometimes difficult due to working with 2 separate groups of clubs but we are asking that all efforts be made to avoid this if possible. Provisional judges are also needed to meet AKC guidelines for judging panels

If you are a member of the club and will be or are provisional for new breeds be sure to call Kathleen and let her know as it is club policy to help our members with their provisional assignments You need to reach out however. Please call the appropriate committee member for your breed listed here or call the Show Chair, Kathleen Steen - 770-751-0311 -

Show Chairman – Kathleen Steen – 770-751-0311 - [kathleensteen@bellsouth.net](mailto:kathleensteen@bellsouth.net)

Sporting – Mary Ellen Macke – 404-310-5933 - [maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com](mailto:maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com)

Working – Carl Vitner – 404-291-0123 - [samoyed@bellsouth.net](mailto:samoyed@bellsouth.net)

Hounds – Jerry Cersasini - 770-475-3152 – [ponyguru@aol.com](mailto:ponyguru@aol.com)

Non Sporting – Dot Bates - 770-475-0410 - [n\\_bates@bellsouth.net](mailto:n_bates@bellsouth.net)

Toys – Candy Wright – 678-851-4633 - [chiggerbug@gmail.com](mailto:chiggerbug@gmail.com)

Herding – Dr Carmen Battaglia – 770-998-3679 - [cbattaglia@mindspring.com](mailto:cbattaglia@mindspring.com)

Terrier – Gilda Mallik – 770-394-4098 - [gilndon@comcast.net](mailto:gilndon@comcast.net)

***Contact your breed's group representative to submit possible judge choices for future shows.***



**MEMBERSHIP:**

**GILDA MALLIK - GILNDON@COMCAST.NET - 770-394-4098**

**NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome New Members voted into membership:

**LAURIE L. FORD**

1672 Sierra Drive, Marietta, GA 30062  
Home phone: 770-315-5135 • Cell: 770-543-9855  
*artscape1964@hotmail.com*

**BREED:** Pomeranian/Australian Shepherd  
**SPONSORS:** Beth Hawthorne, Bud Hidlay



**JANIE AND RICHARD "RICK" SMITH**

406 Northampton Lane, Canton, GA 30115  
Home: 770-704-7944 • Cell: 770-241-1732  
*jhsros@aol.com • rsmith6580@aol.com*

**BREED:** Parson Russell Terriers  
**SPONSORS:** Mary Ellen and Jim Macke



**ATLANTA KC GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

Nominations are now being solicited for the *Good Sportsmanship Award* to be given at our annual *meeting in MAY*. Please send your nomination in 50 words or less to Ginger Aldrich at *snofire@aol.com* prior to March 25th to be included in the April Digest for people who have exhibited good sportsmanship during the past club year.

**TROPHIES**

Continue the tradition and help enhance reputation our club has of offering some of the best trophies in the country at our shows!

Thank you to all the donors for our Spring trophies – Be sure to stop by the table and see them all on display, Saturday in Perry in the MMH Building.

CAROL SIMMONS is our *Trophy Chair* and we are now beginning to solicit prizes for Fall so stop by and Let Carol know you want to be included – or email her at *cmsdals@bellsouth.net*

**MEMBER OF THE MONTH:**



**MARCH:** is **ROGER BROWN** for allowing us to use the *Barn at Brownwood Farms* in Alpharetta for our 1st Barn Hunt seminar and Match.

## ATLANTA KENNEL CLUB DIGEST

### DIGEST COORDINATOR:

**GINGER ALDRICH - [Snofire@aol.com](mailto:Snofire@aol.com) - 770-380-9404**

Send any brags or articles of interest to Ginger. Mail Address: P.O. Box 242, Murrayville, GA 30564.



### **Ideas on Programs anyone?**

**KATHY SMITH**, our Program Chair, is requesting any member suggestions and contact info for 2015 Programs you would like us to plan. She needs ideas on interesting programs you would like to have. Please contact Kathy at [goodtimegldns@aol.com](mailto:goodtimegldns@aol.com) 404-256-4451.

### WEBMASTER:

**JIM MACKE - [JIMMACKE@COMCAST.NET](mailto:JIMMACKE@COMCAST.NET) *OR***

**MARY ELLEN MACKE - [MARYELLEN.MACKE@HARRYNORMAN.COM](mailto:MARYELLEN.MACKE@HARRYNORMAN.COM)**

**404-310-5933.** Call or email either Mary Ellen or Jim for website questions or help.



We are on **FACEBOOK!** Thanks, **TAMARA BROWER** for creating our FB page - it's beautiful! We have had some great participation but we want everyone to check it out and "Like us" and spread the word far and wide to your other FB dog friends. Great photos now from our recent BARN HUNT - check it out, okay?!!

[www.facebook.com/AtlantaKennelClub](http://www.facebook.com/AtlantaKennelClub)

### CARDS AND FLOWERS:

**MARSHA GREENE - [toydogs@bellsouth.net](mailto:toydogs@bellsouth.net) - 770-851-0130**



Please think of our members who have recently had surgery or otherwise been under the weather!

### JUNIORS:

**THE AKC JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP FACEBOOK PAGE** - Check it out Juniors and Juniors supporters!

<https://www.facebook.com/akc.juniors>



### **JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP SERIES WINNERS JACKETS**

These are the jackets won by our winners and finalists of the Top Junior Showmanship series held At our Fall Show, October 18, 2014!





ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**OUR CLUBS COMING SHOWS IN APRIL**

Show Premiums are up on [www.atlantakennelclub.org](http://www.atlantakennelclub.org) event calendar and on [www.Onofrio.com](http://www.Onofrio.com) under coming shows and on [www.peach-blossom.org](http://www.peach-blossom.org) NOW!!!!

*NO premiums are being mailed so be sure to download and mail your entries in By March 25th at noon – Closing date for all 5 days.*

NOTE: AKC published a closing date for OH Series of an earlier week but that is incorrect - ALL days close on March 25th.



**PEACH BLOSSOM  
CLUSTER  
DOG SHOWS**

*Have some time to help out at the shows?" on ANY DAY?  
Contact Cluster Chair, Mary Ellen Macke at 404-310-5933 or  
[maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com](mailto:maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com)*



BRAGS:

Please send any brags to Ginger Aldrich for the Digest – [Snofire@aol.com](mailto:Snofire@aol.com), 770-380-9404, P.O. Box 42, Murrayville, GA 30564 (usually to be received prior to the 1st of each month)

***What a thrill!***

JERRY CERASINI and ROGER BROWN had a great win at WESTMINSTER winning the breed with a bitch they own and out of one of their bitches.

**GCH DIAGRAM ISN'T SHE LOVELY V BROWNWOOD**  
**BREED:** Dachshund (Smooth)  
**SEX:** Bitch  
**AKC:** HP 38472803  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 05, 2010  
**BREEDER:** Dianne R Graham  
**SIRE:** DC Diagram Trandescant SS JE  
**DAM:** Ch Brownwood Simply Irresistable SS  
**OWNER:** Jerry Cerasini & Roger Brown & Dianne Graham



## Legislative Alert – from Gail La Berge Georgia Canine Coalition

Below is the alert from AKC. This is the bill the GCC is backing. Please follow the alert. For questions, contact Gail LaBerge, [outland@laberge.org](mailto:outland@laberge.org).

## Attention Georgia Dog Owners:

**Your action is needed** to stop breed-specific legislation in Georgia. **Senate Bill 184** would prohibit local governments from enacting laws that applies only to specific breeds or perceived breeds of dogs. SB 184 does not restrict local governments from enacting ordinances that apply to all dogs.

In the next step toward enactment, the bill will be voted on by the Georgia Senate Rules Committee. If it advances in the Rules Committee, it will then be voted on by the entire Senate.

If it passes there, it will “**cross over**” to the Georgia House of Representatives for another round of votes.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP KEEP THIS IMPORTANT BILL MOVING:**

Contact your state senator today and respectfully ask him or her to vote YES on Senate Bill 184. Please click here for Senate contact information.

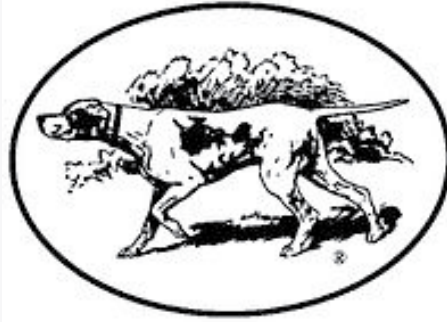
**You may also wish to contact members of the Senate Rules Committee**, whose votes will determine if the bill advances to the Senate.

**<http://www.senate.ga.gov/senators/en-US/SenateMembersList.aspx> - this is the link to find senator contact info**

#### **Senate Rules Committee Members**

Senator Jeff Mullis, Chairman  
Senator Ross Tolleson, Vice Chairman  
Senator Bill Jackson, Secretary  
Senator Gloria S. Butler, Member  
Senator Bill Heath, Member  
Senator Steve Henson, Member  
Senator Jack Hill, Member  
Senator Judson Hill, Member  
Senator, Fran Millar, Member  
Senator Butch Miller, Member  
Senator Horacena Tate, Member  
Senator Renee S. Unterman, Member  
Senator Bill Cowsert, Ex-Officio  
Senator Steve Gooch, Ex-Officio  
Senator Hunter Hill, Ex-Officio  
Senator William T. Ligon, Jr., Ex-Officio  
Senator David Shafer, Ex-Officio  
Senator John Wilkinson, Ex-Officio

## History<sup>[edit]</sup>



The **Westminster Kennel Club** was formed in 1877.

The first Westminster show was first held on May 8, 1877, making it the second-longest continuously held sporting event in the United States behind only the [Kentucky Derby](#), which was first held in 1875. (Both events were held even during the World War years.) The show originated as a show for [gun dogs](#), primarily [Setters](#) and [Pointers](#), initiated by a group of hunters who met regularly at the Westminster Hotel at Irving Place and Sixteenth Street in [Manhattan](#). They decided to create a [kennel club](#) called the Westminster Kennel Club specifically for the purpose of holding a dog show. The prizes for these first shows included such items as pearl handled pistols, of use to the hunters and terrier men who worked these dogs in the field.

The first show took place in May 1877 at Gilmore's Garden (later to become [Madison Square Garden](#)). That show drew over 1200 dogs and proved so popular that its originally scheduled three days became four, with the club donating proceeds from that fourth day to the ASPCA for creation of a home for stray and disabled dogs.

The Westminster Kennel Club predates the formation of the [American Kennel Club](#) by seven years, and became the first club admitted to the AKC after AKC's founding in 1884. Breed parent clubs (e.g., the Afghan Hound Club of America) create the standards for judging their breeds, with the AKC administering the rules about shows and judging.

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# A Fun-Filled Day With Rats & Hay



Earning a championship on a puppy is a major achievement, and Robin Nuttall was a proud owner when her Miniature Pinscher won the title in just five weekends.

But after a few weeks, she looked at the active little dog and thought, “Now what do I do with him?” She started training Zipper in agility and rally and did more research into his breed.

“I have always been interested in finding out what dogs were bred to do and I found that Min Pins were bred to be vermin hunters,” says Nuttall, who was new to the toy breed, having formerly shown Doberman Pinschers.

At the time, Min Pins were not approved for AKC Earthdog trials, in which terriers tunnel underground and locate vermin. So the Missouri resident dug around and found some terrier clubs that offered informal aboveground (non-lethal) hunting events for all breeds. Zipper loved sniffing out the rats, and Nuttall dreamed of the possibilities for “non-terriers” to enjoy the thrill of the hunt.

“The idea for a national sport was born, with titles and awards and rules. I thought it was a great idea but really did not have the time or desire to do it myself. I kept waiting for someone else to step up, but no one did. So in February 2012 I announced on a list that I wanted to start a new sport. Interest was immediate and strong. So here we are.”

## Surprising Boom

Here is the Barn Hunt Association (BHA), which Nuttall founded and directs. Launched in early 2013, the sport has burrowed into the lives of dog owners across the country. Fanciers, sports competitors, and pet owners have jumped at the opportunity for their dogs to experience hunting.

“I thought barn hunt would be one of those small off-shoot sports that dog people do and that if you were outside the dog sport world, you really wouldn’t hear about it or care. Instead, it has exploded,” Nuttall says. “The most surprising yet gratifying thing is that the sport is seeing a huge influx of people who have never done anything with their dog before—never been to a show or trial.”

**With the new sport of barn hunt, chasing vermin is not just for terriers anymore.**

**By Penny Leigh**







*Otter, an English Cocker Spaniel, was the first dog to earn the barn hunt masters title.*

In the first year, BHA bestowed nearly 2,500 titles and registered more than 5,000 dogs. Barn hunt is open to all dogs, including mixed-breeds, and an amazing variety, from Chihuahuas to Mastiffs, has been successful.

Dogs track rats that are safely enclosed in heavy PVC tubes, with holes drilled in the sides for ventilation. The pipes are hidden among hay bales, and the dogs have a certain amount of time to locate and indicate the “prey.” To make it more challenging, empty tubes and tubes containing shavings from the rat’s cage are also concealed in the bales.

Dogs also must make the moves necessary to hunt in a barn, including climbing on hay bales and tunneling through them.

BHA classes include an Instinct test that requires dogs to show within a minute which of three tubes, laid side by side, contains the rat. Dogs have to pass Instinct only once to receive that title.

Other levels are:

Novice—Find one rat within two minutes; three legs will earn the title of Novice Rat Dog (RATN)

Open—Find two rats within two and a half minutes; three legs will earn the title of Open Rat Dog (RATO)

Senior—Find four rats within three minutes; three legs will earn the title of Senior Rat Dog (RATS)

Master—Handler does not know

how many tubes contain rats. There can be from one to five. Handlers must tell the judge that their dog has located all rats and is finished within four and a half minutes; five legs will earn the title of Master Rat Dog (RATM).

The highest level of achievement is the BHA Championship, known as the RATCH. This requires earning 10 additional legs in Masters after completing RATM. In May, the BHA crowned its first champion—a Weimaraner named Lexi.

Andrea Dugger, of Marietta, Georgia, got Lexi at age 1 after her previous owner returned her to the breeder. Life with Lexi was not easy. She suffered extreme separation anxiety and destroyed multiple crates, injuring herself in the process. “The tipping point was when she escaped an ex-pen, went for her treats I left on the sink, turned on the faucet, and flooded my house, creating \$13,000 in damages,” Dugger says.

“I asked myself what was in the best interest of the dog while trying to save my sanity. I decided I had to build her confidence so she could eventually be comfortable staying by herself.”

Lexi entered obedience class, and the situation improved. They kept training and discovered dog sports. Dugger started working Lexi in the field and realized she had an incredible nose. Lexi earned the AKC Junior Hunter title and began competing in K9 Nose Work. When



Dugger read a post about Barn Hunt, she knew Lexi would love it. “She immediately took to the sport. It was the best of both worlds to combine her natural prey drive and the teamwork we had built.”

Barn Hunt requires a strong partnership between owner and dog, as it is up to the owner to recognize when the dog has located the rat. The owner must tell the judge—usually by saying *Rat!*—that the dog has achieved this. If the owner calls this incorrectly, the dog receives a non-qualifying score.

Dog trainer Tammy Roberts competes with a diverse group of dogs and frequently hosts BHA trials at her school in Cummings, Georgia. Roberts has earned titles on a miniature Poodle, a Dalmatian, a Saint Bernard, and a mixed-breed dog. She quickly learned that each dog is an individual in how it approaches the sport.

“I love watching them all work; each has their own technique and alerts in a different way. Hexie, the all-American, bites at the end of the tube. Rigby the Poodle paws at the tube. Wes, my Dalmatian, really wants what is inside the rat tube. Before I built four-foot gating around my ring, I would tell him ‘find the rat,’ and he would jump the lower gating and stand by the office door where I keep the rat cages. Bobby, the Saint Bernard, loves the tunnels, and he loves to climb and the party and applause when he qualifies.”

It is not surprising such a variety of dogs excel at Barn Hunt, says Jo Ann Frier-Murza, a judge for AKC Earthdog and Barn Hunt Association trials. Whether in the city or country, owners relied on their pet dogs to help rid their property of rodents.

The AKC recognizes BHA titles. For more information on adding BHA titles to your dog’s AKC record, visit [akc.org/dog\\_shows/\\_trials/titles/barn\\_hunt/index.cfm](http://akc.org/dog_shows/_trials/titles/barn_hunt/index.cfm).

For more information, visit [barnhunt.com](http://barnhunt.com).

“An 1898 book, *Full Revelations of a Professional Rat-catcher*, mentions the types of dogs used by an urban rat catcher, and the list contains many breeds, not just terriers,” Frier-Murza says.

Modern-day earthdog trials use caged rats for convenience. But terriers’ intended prey was larger earth-dwelling predators, like badger and fox, which raided farmers’ livestock. Small brave dogs that could fit in their dens were needed for the job.

But no dog can fit in the tiny burrows of rats, so canines of all sizes and types worked with their owners on this task. “Rat-hunting dogs hunt above ground and dig their quarry out, or ‘ask’ their human partner for help getting under machinery or bales to reach their quarry,” Frier-Murza says.

The welfare of the rats is a frequent concern addressed about Barn Hunt, but their care and safety is a major component of the BHA regulations. “I get this question all the time: *Are the rats afraid of dogs?*” says Renee Westich, a BHA judge, instructor, and competitor who earned a BHA championship on her Border Collie. Westich owns rats, beloved pets with names, and they are frequently used in classes and trials. At events, they often ride on her shoulders and get lots of petting from participants.

“Fancy rats are highly intelligent creatures. They are used for behavioral studies because they are easy to train and can figure out complex problems,” Westich says. “The rats used for this sport are well socialized and trained with dogs in order to do this sport.”

In fact, the dogs may need to worry about the rat, instead of the other way around, Westich says. “I had one of

my rats in a wire cage for an introduction portion at a clinic. There was one timid dog I was having a hard time getting interested in the rat. The owner even mentioned that she was extremely shy, and this was probably not going to be her thing. As my rat sat on the ground in the cage, the dog stuck her nose right up to the cage to get a good smell. My rat is known to be mischievous, so he came nose to nose with her to smell her too and then bit her on her nose. The dog totally switched gears and wanted to get back at my rat for doing that! I was mortified, believing that the owner was going to be upset. On the contrary, she was ecstatic that her dog became engaged.” 🐾



“I smell a rat!” Barn hunt allows Lexi to put her nose and energy to good use.

Penny Leigh is program manager of AKC Canine Partners and an avid competitor in several dog sports.