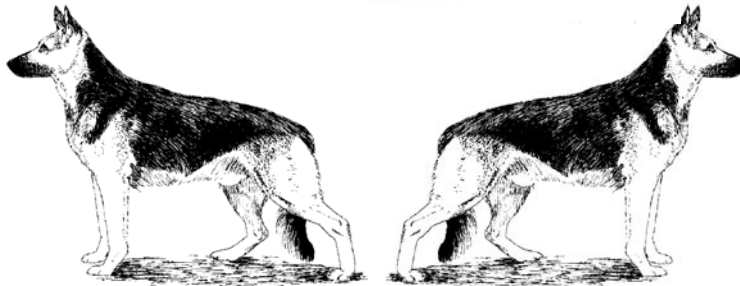
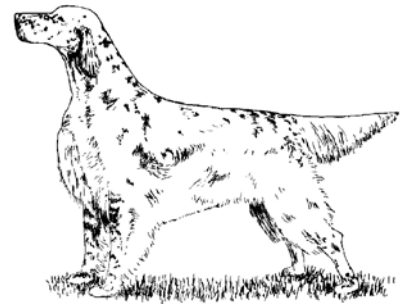
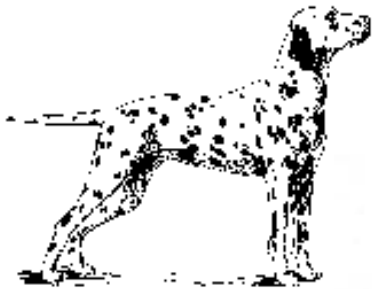


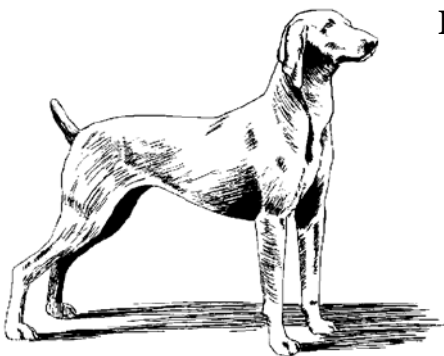
FAITHFULLY YOURS



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Incorporation No A5419H

ABN 79 874 613 605



Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
Breakwater Road, Belmont Common
GEELONG VIC 3220
Phone: 5243 4555

April 2009
Issue No
199

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann

Office Bearers for 2008/2009

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VICE-PRESIDENT (1)	Sandy Malady		Training
VICE-PRESIDENT (2)	Vacant		Administration
SECRETARY	Karen Millard	52672618	
TREASURER	Heather Cook	52296867	Property Officer
TRIAL SECRETARY	Paul Gearon	52296867	
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Kathy Stones	52428442	Canteen Manager
	Theo Rain		Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	5241 5401	Grounds Manager
	Barb Pownall	0418993203	General Committee 1
	Jim Ball	52484154	General Committee 2
	Alex Shackleton		Shop manager
NON-COMMITTEE	David Gravolin	5248 5480	Training Supervisor
	Christine Stephens		Membership Officer
	Elaine Longshaw	5255 4603	Minutes Officer
	Robyn Youl	5367 6415	Librarian
	Stephen Eldridge		Assistant Librarian
	Tina Button	0414 363 556	Newsletter Editor
	Brendan Jagtenberg		Webmaster

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GEELONG VIC 3220**

If you would like to contribute articles etc. for publication in “Faithfully Yours”, please forward them to The Editor, c/- the above address, hand in at the Office or email to monlaird_kennels@hotmail.com

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15th of each month

Club website – www.godc.org.au



CLUB CALENDAR

May

Sunday	3 May	Normal training
Sunday	10 May	Normal training.
Friday	15 May	Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc
Sunday	17 May	Normal training
Monday	18 May	Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm.
Saturday	23 May	Steve Austin Seminar
Sunday	24 May	Steve Austin Seminar. Walk-a-thon for Members not attending seminar.
Sunday	31 May	Normal training. Newsletter available.

CLUB INSTRUCTORS

Vice President (Training)

Sandy Malady

Training Supervisor

David Gravolin

Assistant Training Supervisors

Sandy Malady

Kim Ciezarek

Obedience

Joan Brophy

Leonie Kelleher

Tina Button

Colin Humphreys

Victor Douglas

Val Moeller

John Shields

Helen Read

Kath Devlin

Wendy Ganly

Desma Dickeson

Andrew Wallace

Agility

Trish Gavaghan

Glenys Murray

Alex Shackleton

Simmon Hellebrand

Lyn wills

Anne Macrae

Peter Baker

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Everyone,

The Agility Trials have been run and won. You couldn't have asked for a better trialling weekend, the weather was perfect. Thank you to our Major Sponsor - **PETSTOCK**.

A big THANK YOU to all the Committee, Instructors & Members who gave up their time to help out over the weekend. A successful weekend was had but rather tiring. Good reports from all the Judges, they were impressed with their stewards and ring helpers. The canteen once again provided fantastic food for the competitors. (Thanks Kathy & crew). Sandy did a marvellous job looking after judges, stewards and ring helpers. A big Thank you to Karen for stepping in to help me out in the Office in the absence of the Trial Sec, much appreciated, and of course thanks to Jim our resident MC. Thanks go to Victor, Theo and David for setting up and making the grounds look wonderful. To the Band of Stewards, ring helpers, raffle steward (Big John), general Members **JOB WELL DONE!!!**

Just goes to show what a great team can do when they work together!!

Tina Button –President

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Hi Everyone,

Welcome back! Well what a busy couple of weeks we have had, firstly well done to all who passed their test on promotion day, for those who did not make it, don't give up. The Agility trials were a huge success and Thanks go to all the help we have received. To all the Committee especially Tina, Kathy and the canteen staff, John the raffle steward, The stewards and grounds people, and a Big Thanks to David, Trish, Glenys, Leonie from the Instructors, also well done Simmon and Reba on your title.

Hope you all had a Happy Easter, until next time,

Karen Millard - Secretary

**ADVERTISING RATES FOR “FAITHFULLY YOURS”**

All advertisements are restricted to half an A4 page with a limit of 12 advertisements per issue

RATES

12 months	6 issues (bi-monthly - odd months)	\$50.00
1 edition		\$10.00

Half page “Vale notices” and “Title notices” are free to members with owner providing information. Puppy litters will not be advertised.

COMPETITION

Next Month is our 200th Issue of Faithfully Yours, to celebrate this milestone we will be having a design competition for the front cover for this special Issue.

ENTRIES CLOSE SUNDAY 10th May

A few rules.

- 1. Entries to be emailed to the Editor (monlaird_kennels@hotmail.com)**
- 2. Entry must include the club logo, Club address, Issue number, established date, ABN & incorporation Number. (all found on front cover of this issue)**
- 3. Entries may be in colour, A4 size. No photos.**
- 4. Children welcome to enter.**

The best three entries as decided by Committee will be placed on the Noticeboard on the 17th May for Members to vote on.

The winning entry will have their design on the Front cover of the May issue and a write up in the Newsletter.

GOOD LUCK

Obedience**Ballaarat dog obedience Club, Saturday 4th April.****AM Trial**

Dog Registered name	Call name	Breed	Owner	results
Ruby Rupinder CCD	Ruby	Associate (Lab)	Sally hunt	1 st pass , 1 st place, Novice

PM TRIAL

Ch Lahej KelbTal Kutcha CCD	Anubi	Pharaoh Hound	Tina Button	1 st pass, 2 nd Place, Novice
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Agility**Geelong Obedience Dog Club, Saturday 18th April **AM Trial****

Monsrebarose	Reba	Associate (BC)	Simmon Hellebrand	1 st place NQ Novice Agility
Monsrebarose	Reba	Associate (BC)	Simmon Hellebrand	2 nd place 1 st pass Novice Jumping

Best Geelong Member

Monsrebarose	Reba	Associate (BC)	Simmon Hellebrand	3 rd place 2 nd pass Novice jumping
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Geelong Obedience Dog Club, Saturday 18th April **PM Trial**

Monsrebarose	Reba	Associate (BC)	Simmon Hellebrand	2 nd Place 3 rd Pass Novice Jumping *JD TITLE*
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Best Geelong Member**Geelong Obedience Dog Club, Sunday 19th April **AM TRIAL****

Monsrebarose	Reba	Associate (BC)	Simmon Hellebrand	2 nd place 4 th pass Novice Jumping
Monlaird Hyland Mist CCD	Skye	Border Collie	Tina Button	3 rd place 1 st pass Novice Jumping

Best Geelong Member - Simmon Hellebrand

Monlaird Hyland Mist CCD	Skye	Border Collie	Tina Button	4 th Place 2 nd pass Novice jumping
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Best Geelong Member, Best Border Collie PM Trial

MONSREBAROSE JD (Reba)



18th/19th April was a very nerve racking day for both Reba and myself, as this day was our very first VCA Agility/Jumping trial.

We had been training very hard for this day as getting her name amongst some of the best Agility dogs was our first aim. I had entered 10 events for the weekend hoping that we would have some success and with her best event being jumping I was quite confident that we could achieve the highest and get her JD Title.

Reba had a great start to the trial with getting 2 passes in jumping for the morning and the pressure was on for the afternoon to get that other pass to make it 3, which entitles her to the JD title. And yes she did it, was a little slower but had a clean smooth run that felt great and she knew how good it was feeling as she was growling her way round the course. We finished the weekend with many ribbons and overall with four Novice jumpers passes. I was amazed with the ribbons she had won and we also had received three Best Geelong Member ribbon to top it off. It was a fantastic weekend and I'm very proud of Reba and how she held her nerve back to perform for Geelong Obedience and me. A Big thank you to my support crew: Tina, Trish, Glenys, Lyn, Karen and the many helpers throughout the trial.

Simmon & Reba

Dates to remember

- ❖ **24th May** - Walkathon for members, raising money for Jirrahlinga wildlife rescue & Leopold wildlife rescue
- ❖ **24th May** - Steve Austin Seminar
- ❖ **7th June** - Queens Birthday long weekend. No training

Weimeraner



This breed is best known for its ghostly grey coloration, but it is also an outstanding and versatile companion and hunter.

The Weimaraner is another of the purpose-built breeds, although there is no confirmed history. It has been dated positively to the 1600s through a painting by the Flemish artist Van Dyck. This breed was developed in the Grand Duchy of Weim to be a useful companion to foresters. They needed a dog that would hunt and retrieve small game, work land as well as water, work for hours at a steady pace, have a good nose for fur and feathered game, be protective but

never vicious, and be easy to train. They started with a local breed that was Hound-like in appearance, that had some of these qualities and was being used to hunt wild boars, bears and wolves. It is generally accepted that Bloodhounds were used to develop the Weimaraner.

For years there was a restriction on the breeding of the Weimaraner; at first only nobility were allowed to breed this dog. Even after this restriction was relaxed there were other strict controls, and no breeding outside Germany was permitted until 1930. This has led to the development of a breed that is very strong in type. These days the breed is well known worldwide.

The Weimaraner is a large dog. Height: 23 - 27 in (59 - 69 cm) at the shoulder. Weight: 70 - 85 lb (32 - 38 kg). The most striking feature of the Weimaraner is its unique ghostly grey coat. It is possible that the colour is a result of a mutation during the early days of the breed's development. There are two varieties of Weimaraner: the shorthaired and the longhaired. The coat is uniformly short and sleek in the shorthaired, and in the longhaired it is only slightly longer with fringing on the ears, legs and tail.

To match the outstanding coat, the Weimaraner also has striking eyes. The eyes can be blue or amber, and they express much intelligence. The ears are fairly wide and long, and are set high on the head to hang close to the neck with a small fold. As befits a working gun dog, Weimaraners have a deep chest and a level back coupled with strong hindquarters. The tail is docked to 6 in (15 cm) and is carried level with the back.

This large dog has a wonderful character. Looking into the eyes of a Weimaraner, you can tell this dog is very intelligent. Not only does it have the ability to learn commands quickly from its owner, it is also able to work things out on its own. The Weimaraner can make a very good guard dog if given a little training.

This dog should be given plenty of daily exercise. It is a wonderful sight to see the Weimaraner running at full stretch. As long as it is not allowed to become too bossy, the Weimaraner makes an excellent companion dog for the family. This dog requires assertive training but it is important not to be too overbearing, or it may become confused. Noses, which are only lightly pigmented, should be covered with sun block in the summer. A marvellous dog that is easy to care for.

Staffordshire Bull Terrier



The breed that we know today began to evolve in the early 1800's they were known as the "Bull & Terrier". They were bred from the English White Terrier, a breed now extinct and the British Bulldog. The bulldog of that era was a taller more athletic dog than the one we know today. There were probably other breeds as well there is a train of thought that the Manchester was also involved but these are the two breeds most recognised as the founders of the Stafford.

They were bred as fighting dogs & used for other blood sports such as Bull & Bear baiting, these were

still popular in the early 1900's. Thankfully they are illegal now, however unfortunately they do still exist. These dogs were owned predominately by Coal miners & the poorer class of people and a good fighting dog was worth a lot of money. Even in these times the Stafford was a family dog, and reliable & trustworthy with children. Due to their amazing love & tolerance of children the Stafford has earned the title the "Nanny Dog" in England.

The breed was first recognised by the Kennel Club in England in 1935, at that time the Standard called for a height of 15 - 18 inches, so the dogs were much taller than the ones we see in the show ring today. However due to this we'll always get the odd throwbacks to what they originally were. The standard was changed in 1948 & the height was reduced to 14 - 16 inches while the weights remained the same.

This had a big impact on the breed as it made the dogs a much heavier type.

Although our Staffords do not show the amount of aggression their ancestors did towards other dogs you must always remember the power of the dog you own. A Stafford should never stand around growling or snarling at other dogs on sight, however if another dog chooses to pick a fight a Stafford won't back down. For this reason Obedience training & socialising as Puppies is vitally important if you want a happy well adjusted Stafford. And Staffords are incredibly easy to train.

Because of their love of people, don't expect to get a Guard dog, while a Stafford would protect you if you were in danger, they won't protect material possessions. They'd welcome the company if the house was burgled.

CLUB RAFFLE

WIN A 2 DAY STAY AT

“THE GLEN”

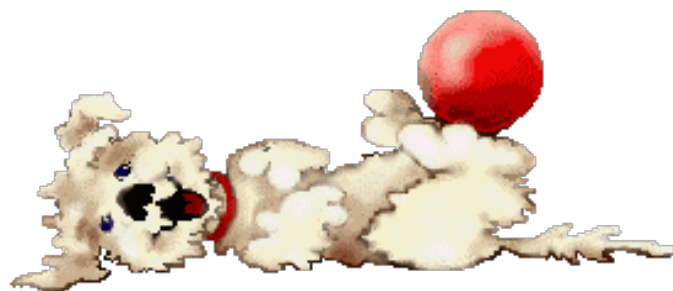
AIREYS INLET

PET FRIENDLY ACCOMODATION

PRIZE VALUED AT \$ 700

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TECHNIQUES FOR THE TRIAL RING

Lea Cogley – Melbourne

(Something to think about not only for Trial Members, but also on Promotion Days)

There a number of specific techniques to use when preparing to enter the ring. First let me say that the best preparation is to have your dog well trained. The confidence that comes from knowing the dog is capable of performing does not guarantee that he/she will, it simply starts you off with the knowledge that he/she can. Have your club/friend/instructor assess your dog before entering a trial. No guarantees but it will help your confidence.

If I don't enter the ring with elevators going off in my tummy, I am not "keyed up" correctly. This is quite different from the panic that many handlers feel. I am ready to give of my best but still need the adrenaline buzz when performing and my dogs feed off it too. Once the judge gives the first command, I switch off all outside influences and concentrate on our team.

A judge that I love has a little two liner that relaxes handlers greatly. He says "Welcome to my ring where all competitors qualify. Please leave your nerves at the start post and pick them up when you leave." The handler is then set up for success, often smiling and relaxing.

A good technique is to get to the start post - of course you will have the dog heeling from outside the ring to the start post - settle the dog, then take a deep breath or two, shrug and rotate your shoulders to break the tension. Simply taking in some oxygen is beneficial to the brain and enables you to function without experiencing hypoxia or lack of oxygen. When judging, it is amazing how many people I observe that don't breathe deeply until the end of exercise. I want to say to them "for Pete's sake breathe properly."

Have you watched tennis players muff a shot then immediately replay the ball in their mind, using the correct technique, open the racquet more, feet under the ball more etc. this is a good technique for performing in the ring. Arrange for a friend to hold your dog while you refresh yourself on footwork, signals etc. before entering the ring. Don't do it with the dog as your best work can often be outside the ring.

If you are nervous, edgy, jumpy, the dog will feel it and some dogs will shut down because you are not your normal self. "Why is mum different - oooops it must be this place i.e. the ring = bad place." The ring should always be a happy place. A good technique is to have the dog weave through your legs between exercises or play bow on command or jump the dog out of the exercise when finished, by holding your left hand above it's head and asking for touch or targeting. In Australia we are able to play with the dog between exercises as long as we do not disturb other competitors. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Last but not least, do not think about mistakes you see as you go along. Put them on video (your mind) and replay when you leave the ring not during the performance. If you focus on the first mistake, you unfocus on the whole performance. Spending time worrying about a mistake allows your dog to go off the boil and creates a mental image of failure. If you keep sending mental images of the dog performing marvellously you can influence the dog by simply being positive. No room for negative thoughts while in the ring, even if the dog is being vile. I believe strongly that the vibes you give off to

the dog, mistakes, anger, and disappointment affect the dogs mind. If you make a mistake, or the dog does, immediately think positive thoughts about how well the team will do the next exercise.

Bad scenario - "Bugger he missed the sit, now I will never get the points and he will make other mistakes. There goes my qualifying score." Good scenario - "Oops, bad luck boy, do better next time, I love working with you, you're a great dog."

The power of positive thinking is much documented and applies to dog training as if the authors were all dog trainers. Trust in your dog and yourself, never leaving the ring berating the dog or yourself. I always release my dog to a bag containing favourite toys, rewards, tug ropes etc. after I have left the ring. We have a game to end Trialling on a high note - assures that next time he/she will associate the ring with fun.

Unfortunately, Trialling the dog before it is ready or reacting to mistakes in the ring teaches the dog to dread going through the gate. Most handlers will give off distress signals when a mistake is observed. It may be a slight drop of the shoulders, it may be an exhalation of breath, it also may be a stiffening of the body posture, which are all clear and huge signals for the dog. Remember that dogs live by observation and can read the smallest change in attitude.

We need to go into a happy routine in the ring, use your body like an elastic piece of equipment rather than a stick figure. No way am I suggesting that you use excessive body language, just that you move like a human and not like a soldier. Take the ramrod out of your back and.....enjoy moving with the dog.

